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Price twenty pence

Polish church criticizes riot police

The Polish bishops have criticized the Polish Government's handling of violent demonstrations on Monday. They also said they expected substantial concessions from the state authorities on the revival of Solidarity, and the ending of martial law. They made it clear that the police handling of the demonstrations overshadowed the authorities recent concessions Back page

Axe man pelts siege police

A man armed with axe who barricaded himself in a loft in a house in St Ann's, Nottingham, was defying police last night. He pelted them with tiles thrown through a hole in the roof

ETA murder A-plant chief

Opening war on Basques cooperating with Madrid, ETA gunmen murdered the chief engineer of a Bilbao nuclear plant on the day it was being signed over to regional authorities. The Cabinet went into emergency session Page 8

Markets trade nervously

Financial markets reacted nervously yesterday to the news of British losses in the South Atlantic. The pound fell sharply against Continental currencies, but finished stronger against the dollar. The stock market made a recovery after early losses Page 17

New rules on police taping

New rules covering tape recording of police interviews and wider powers to stop and search will be included in a Police Bill being prepared by the Government for introduction in the autumn Page 5

Israeli bullets kill more

Israel's chief of staff defends the use by his troops of live ammunition against demonstrators in the occupied territories. Critics wonder why bullets fired at legs are killing so many Page 8

Sporting rights

Local hunt supporters believe that South Glamorgan County Council could not enforce any ban on foxhounds as all rural land owned by the council is rented to farmers to whom sporting rights are assigned Page 6

Opera stopped

The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, has cancelled tomorrow's performance of Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* because of a wage dispute with members of the chorus. Refunds will be made to ticket holders.

Polling today

Voters go to the polls in 183 local authorities in England and Scotland today. Party issues are likely to be overshadowed by the Falklands crisis Page 6

Namibia blow

Africa's front-line states reject as sterile the West's Manibia proposals and demand a Geneva-type conference under the UN Page 8

Refugee rumpus

Factional fighting between Vietnam refugees in their Hongkong camp has forced 1,000 from the south to quit and squatin empty barracks Page 8

Boycott century

Geoffrey Boycott scored 138 for Yorkshire against Northamptonshire on the opening day of the county cricket championship. It was the 126th first-class century of his career Page 23

Pym keeps the door open on US-Peru ceasefire proposals

● The latest American-Peruvian proposals to end the Falklands crisis, containing suggestions for an early ceasefire and the prompt withdrawal of Argentine troops, were the most helpful *basis for finding* a settlement, Mr Francis Pym told the Commons yesterday. The Foreign Secretary said he continued to be in close touch with Mr Alexander Haig in Washington.

● The return to a mood of diplomacy after Tuesday's destruction of HMS Sheffield was echoed by Mr John Nott, who told MPs that Britain was planning no aggressive action against the Argentines over the next few days.

● The Ministry of Defence said it was aware of reports that the Argentine fleet, apart from two submarines, was outside the 200-mile exclusion zone heading back to port, but could not confirm them.

By Philip Webster, Political Correspondent

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, disclosed to the Commons yesterday that an early ceasefire, with a prompt Argentine withdrawl, was one of the vital ingredients of the revived American-Peruvian proposals for settling the Falklands crisis.

Saying that he believed these proposals provided the most helpful basis for achieving a settlement, Mr Pym, who has sent a "constructive contribution to Mr Haig, United States Secretary of State, late on Tuesday night, said he would be in touch with him again late last night. He left many MPs with the impression that he regards Mr Haig as being very much back in the negotiating *business, and his* emphasis that an early ceasefire was at the heart of the latest initiative was not lost on them.

Mr Pym pleased the Opposition benches, and particularly Mr Denis Healey, the *shadow Foreign Secretary*, with what they regarded as his positive response to the ideas put forward by Senor Peres de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, although Mr Pym stressed that he regarded the Haig proposals *as offering the best hope of* progress.

He said there were many points of similarity between the secretary-general's thinking and the Haig-Peruvian plan, and that his ideas seemed certain to be reflected in the basis of any solution.

Mr Healey said he regarded that as much more forthcoming than anything the Government had said so far. He asked that the Government should take the initiative in responding to the UN ideas and not hide behind a possible refusal of the Argentine government to respond, as was the case with the earlier Haig proposals. "The Foreign Secretary confirmed that he would be responding to Senor Peres de Cuellar. It was explained in government quarters later that the response would probably be sent today.

Falklands crisis

The Government's cautious hopes of the Peruvian plan rest on that country's close relationship with Argentina. Mr Pym said that Mr Haig was in touch with Peru, which was a friend of Argentina and that might be a way of negotiating.

Throughout the exchanges, Mr Pym stressed his desire to reach a peaceful settlement and appeared to give no encouragement to those Conservative arguing for stepping up military action.

He told Mr Michael Noubert, Conservative MP for Havering, Romford, who had suggested that most effective negotiating weapon was likely to be a military one, that he would infinitely prefer that the troops left the islands under peaceful means than be driven out by force.

When Mr Jonathan Aitken, Tory MP for Thanet, East, *told him to be cautious about* negotiating terms for a ceasefire until the Argentines had shown by their deeds they were withdrawing their troops, Mr Pym replied: "Yes. I am showing appropriate caution, but I will also show appropriate enthusiasm."

And MPs detected no enthusiasm from Mr Pym to a suggestion from the Tory benches that airfields on the Argentine mainland should be bombed. He said: "Naturally military considerations and aspects are being thought about in greater *depth, and possible plans* are being prepared. That is right because we have a task force in the South Atlantic." And he added "Let us at the moment concentrate our minds on trying to achieve a peaceful settlement."

Mr Pym also slightly lifted the veil over the Government's long-term intentions towards the Falklands.

Asked by Dr David Owen, parliamentary leader of the Social Democratic Party, positively to welcome the concept of a United Nations trusteeship council, Mr Pym replied: "The Government has an open mind about what might be the ultimate solution. Most certainly the United Nations trusteeship concept is one of those possibilities. It might in the end prove to be highly suitable."

Although it was stressed later that Mr Pym was referring to the idea as no more than an option at present some MPs, notably Dr Owen, regarded his reply as significant.

Half mast at Sheffield cenotaph over the destroyer's loss.

Sombre mood in Commons

Nott hints at pause in action

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, gave a strong indication in the Commons yesterday that British forces off the Falkland Islands were planning no attacking action against the Argentines over the next few days. He told MPs that if the Argentine forces in the next few days did not in any way challenge our ships and our men and threaten them, and if they ceased coming into the total exclusion zone, then no casualties need arise.

Mr Nott also denied American reports that a naval battle was now going on around the Falklands. He had no knowledge of any such battle, he said, and the government had no reports *of one. Although he could* not be sure because of periodic communications difficulties, he had checked recently on this point and was aware of the reports from American sources.

There had been accompanying vessels in the immediate area which picked up those who had abandoned ship, he said. Describing the news as grave and tragic, the Secretary of State firmly told the House that the task force was continuing its operations as planned.

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, described the sinking of the destroyer as a tragedy. Mr Nott agreed with him that there would have to be a further statement today after more information had arrived from the task force. Communications with the operational area were difficult at present and the information must be treated as provisional until further reports were received.

As Mr Nott gave the Commons the first full details of the attack on HMS Sheffield, it was soon clear that the mood of MPs had changed remarkably from the near panic reaction of the night before. In sharp contrast, MPs yesterday appeared to be more fully united than ever behind the government in its determination to resist aggression and to see through the operation to a successful conclusion. There were no calls for the withdrawal of the task force and the House appeared to be fuly behind Mr Nott and Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary over the need for British forces to take any action needed to secure the safety of the men and ships around the Falklands.

After tributes and expressions of grief at the loss of life, the Secretary of State told the House that at about 3.30 *London time on Tuesday* afternoon, HMS Sheffield was attacked by Argentine Super Etendard aircraft which launched Exocet missiles. The ship was about 70 miles off the Falklands, enforcing the total exclusion zone with other members of the task force. Two missiles were fired, one missing the ship and the other hitting her amidships. The explosion that followed caused a major fire and, although attempts were made to extinguish it for nearly four hours with the assistance of other fire fighting teams in the area, it spread out of control.

At about 7pm London time the order was given to abandon ship. Ships of the task force picked up survivors and the latest information was that about 30 men were still missing. Others were injured and were being well cared for under medical supervision. The ships were still engaged on operations, but the force commander would provide further information as soon as possible.

Mr Nott added that it was thought that HMS Sheffield may have been detected by an Argentine reconnaissence

continued on back page, col 1

US tries desperately to halt fighting

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, May 5

The United States was today engaged in what diplomatic sources described as "frenetic activity" in an attempt to halt the fighting between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

However, despite the numerous diplomatic initiatives which are now under *way and renewed American* pleas for a quick end to hostilities, there were growing fears in Washington that the undeclared war would become more intense in the wake of the sinking of the General Belgrano and the Sheffield.

Press speculation here that Mr Haig had proposed a 48-hour ceasefire was greeted with a firm "no comment" by State Department spokesmen. The British said they could not accept a ceasefire which left the Argentines in control of the islands.

But a State Department spokesman said that Washington would welcome "any forum or venue to bring the conflict to an end".

The renewed efforts to find a peaceful solution to the crisis began last night when Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, held a three-hour meeting with Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, to discuss an initial British response to a set of peace proposals put forward by President Belunde Terry of Peru last weekend.

The meeting, which was at Britain's request, caused Mr Haig to cancel abruptly a trip to New York, where he was due to give an after-dinner speech to the Irish Club. Mr Haig was at Andrews Air Force base outside Washington about to board an aircraft when he received telephone call from the ambassador requesting urgent talks.

According to British sources, the British Government's initial reaction to the Peruvian proposals was sufficiently encouraging to make Mr Haig put forward a number of modifications of his own. These modifications have been sent to London for comment.

British diplomats strongly rejected suggestions that Britain is now more interested in a negotiated settlement after the loss of a destroyer and a Harrier jet off the Falklands. It was *pointed out that talks on the* Peruvian plan had begun well before these losses were announced. "It is certainly not a case of a bloodied nose causing us to sue for peace", a British diplomat remarked. "We always knew we would have to expect losses if fighting started."

The British have been gradually warming to the Peruvian proposals ever since they were transmitted to Mr Haig by President Belaunde Terry during a telephone conversation on Sunday. The Argentines, on the other hand, have rejected them because, they maintain, they are essentially the same as *those put forward by Mr* Haig during his abortive mediation efforts. Their rejection was also prompted by the sinking of the Belgrano.

The British say that the seven-point Peruvian plan is not the same as the seven-point Haig plan, emphasizing that the Peruvian ideas consist largely of an "expression of general principles" rather than specifically-worded proposals.

Continued on back page, col 4

Fresh proposals sent to Haig after full Cabinet meeting

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

After a two-hour meeting of the inner Cabinet yesterday, followed by an emergency meeting of the full Cabinet, further British proposals were sent by Mr Francis Pym to Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State.

As before, ministers and officials would yesterday give *no details of the* original Peruvian proposals, which Argentina at first rejected; nor of Mr Haig's refinements to those proposals, which he and Mr Pym discussed in Washington last Saturday; nor of the British contribution passed to Mr Haig on Tuesday and the further ideas conveyed yesterday.

Government sources would not say how well the channel which appeared to have been opened between London and Buenos Aires via Lima and Washington was working. But it was stated emphatically after the Cabinet meeting that the blockade of the Falklands was being maintained and would not be lifted until there was a commitment by Argentine to withdraw her forces.

The full Cabinet was convened after the inner group, with the Prime Minister in the chair, agreed that all their colleagues should be allowed the chance of a full reappraisal of the Government's military and diplomatic stance. In the event, the Cabinet spent most of their one hour and fifty minute session considering how their efforts to find a diplomatic solution could best be advanced.

They agreed that worldwide support for Britain as the victim of aggression had been weakened by the fighting in the South Atlantic and was likely to diminish further, and that that made the quest for a diplomatic success (as Mr Pym later told the Commons) all the more urgent.

Ministers also agreed that Mr Pym should speak positively to the Commons about the Government's willinguess to work for a ceasefire, but that that should be dependent on a commitment by the Argentine to withdraw her forces.

The Labour Shadow Cabinet, meeting at the same time, came to a similar conclusion — that they should *sustain the Government, but press ministers to* agree to a ceasefire provided Argentine would commit herself to withdrawal. No member of the Shadow Cabinet, argued against that proviso.

The Oposition claimed last *night to have detected* a significant softening of the Government's position, which ministers, however, denied. In the Commons Mr Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, adopted with approval a statement by Mr Denis Healey, Labour deputy leader, who had said that Britain should not agree to a ceasefire without being clear that "we had a negotiating processs which would get the Argentines off the islands".

Mr Healey responded with gratification, telling Mr Pym *later that this was* "an important distinction from the demand that a ceasefire cannot take place until Argentine forces have left".

THE NEWS
BOOM!
BANG!
Calman

Destroyer still burning 12 hours after attack

From John Witherow, on board HMS Invincible

Survivors from the Sheffield, hit by an Argentine missile have been taken to several other ships in Royal Navy task force as the decision is taken to sink or *try to salvage the crippled* destroyer.

No figures are available yet on the number of casualties although it was believed the ship had a complement of about 270 men. Some injured are being dealt with a by large medical team aboard the Hermes, the flagship.

The 10-year-old destroyer was still burning more than 12 hours after the attack. Earlier reports that it had sunk were described as *premature*.

The missile entered the ship on the starboard side 15 feet above the waterline. photo graphs show a hole about 10 efeet in diameter with black, oily smoke pouring from the vessel. Most of the damage was inside the ship as the Exocet missile exploded just after impact.

The Sheffield was the last sea-going command of Rear Admiral John "Sandy" Woodward, the Commander of the task force, before he took the job as director of Naval Plans at the Minsistry of Defence about four years ago. She had close con*nexions with the city* of Sheffield and was known as "the Shiny Sheep" because of stainless steel fittings in the ship, placed there by local manufactrrers.

The attack was more sophisticated than has been seen to date, and also indicated the Argentines had good intelligence about the position of the fleet.

The news of the attaeck was greeted with shock on board the Invincible. "The reality of all this is beginning to sink in" one officer said. Survivors from the ship are expected to be placed on other ships or sent home as soon as possible.

Junta delays announcement on Sheffield

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, May 5

The military junta tonight had still not officially announced that Argentina had sunk the British destroyer Sheffield, though full accounts were published by Telam, the official news agency.

It appears that the pilot who fired the Exocet missile from a French-built Super-Etendard aircraft turned *back to base before* his missile struck home. According to military spokesmen, he fired at an object that showed up as a small blip on is radar, and it was not until the strike was announced in London that the Argentines were *aware* of what had happened.

Captain Enrique de León, the senior military spokesman, said that two other Etendards were involved in the operation. They had been ordered to attack the British fleet, which was 60 miles south of the Falklands.

According to *Clarin*, the newspaper closest to the military, the missile was fired about 23 miles from the target. It said a Mirage also fired an unidentified missile at an object that showed up as a large blip on the radar screen, which could have been one of the carriers. Acording to the newspaper, Argentina has 12 Etendards, but reports reaching United States sources here say they have only five, which were delivered last year.

The war continues to inflict serious harm on the fragile economy, and the peso now stands at 14,000 to the dollar, compared with 10,000 before hostilities began. The Economy Ministry confirmed today that a new economic programme is expected to contain a series of new exchanges, financial and trade measures, possibly with a strict clampdown on imports of non-essential goods.

The first survivors from the General Belgrano arrived today in the southern town of Ushuaia aboard the rescue ship Gurruchaga [and the Chilean scientific vessel, Piloto Pardo, according to agencies.] According to the *latest* official information, there were 750 survivors. It is believed to have had a crew of 1,042, but one report tonight suggested the figure may have been 800.

Naval sources said that rescue ships were continuing to *battle against tempestuous* seas in the search for more survivors. The ship was holed below the waterline and, according to official spokesmen, it took two hours to sink, giving the crew sufficient time to abandon ship.

They said all personnel not in the compartments blasted by the explosion were safe. They put to sea in 60 lifeboats, each of which had 15 days provisions for 20 people, but which could handle up to 35 people. The boats apparently grouped into fleets of six, to help rescue planes to spot them.

Queen 'deeply concerned'

Buckingham Palace said yesterday: "The Queen is following events in the South Atlantic very closely and is naturally deeply concerned and saddened by the tragic news of the loss of HMS Sheffield and the pilot of the Harrier jet."

The Queen's involvement is not only as head of state and Commander-in-Chief of the British forces; Prince Andrew is a helicopter pilot with the task force.

The search for peace

Opinion at UN ebbs away from Britain

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York, May 5

Senor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, was today awaiting replies to his proposed framework for a peaceful settlement to the Falklands conflict from both Britain and Argentina. He hoped that Britain and Argentina would be in a position to give their replies today, but United Nations officials said no specific deadline had been set.

The mood of the Security Council, which had been favourably disposed toward Britain and its wishes, now appears to have shifted and Britain will have to work hard to persuade the council not to take any action that could interfere with its strategy of parallel military, economic and diplomatic pressure on Argentina.

Diplomatic sources said the Secretary-General's initiative was largely intended to fill the vacuum left left by the failure of the peace mission undertaken by Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State.

During his recent talks with Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, and Senor Nicanor Costa Mendez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, the Secretary-General presented a set of ideas which, with the encouragement of both sides, could be firmed up into specific proposals.

The ideas are understood to cover the several options that the United Nations has to offer whenever there is a crisis, including peace-keeping forces, United Nations administration, and negotiations under United Nations auspices.

It has not been ruled out that the British government could fuse these ideas with the large number of peace proposals and offers of mediation now being floated from all corners of the world, including Peru, Ireland, Spain and the latest from West Germany.

Ireland has taken its initiative to the Security Council, where members were meeting informally to consider its request for a cease-fire.

This is understood to be opposed by Britain since it is an attempt to reduce the tensions heightened by the sinking of the General Belgrano and the destroyer Sheffield without necessarily assuring Argentine withdrawal from the islands.

Ireland yesterday agreed not to press for an urgent meeting of the Council pending the replies for Britain and Argentina to the Secretary-General.

□ In an attack on the United States, Argentina accused the Americans at the United Nations of forming a "spurious colonial alliance" with Britain over the crisis and said Argentines will never forget it (UPI reports).

Señor Eduardo Roca addressed the coordinating committee of non-aligned countries in an effort to drum up support for a new debate on the crisis in the Security Council.

He said that American support for Britain was eroding legitimate aspirations for peace.

"The Argentine people will never understand or forget that in one of the more critical hours of the hemisphere's history the United States has chosen to side with a power foreign to this hemisphere and helping its aggressive schemes", Señor Roca said.

"It is very clear that the United Kingdom did not want to open fire without having the approval, the backing and the direct complicity of the United States Government."

Why Peru is trying again

Lima, May 5. — Peru, a trusted friend of Argentina, has stepped up its efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Falklands conflict.

From the outset, the Government of President Fernando Belaúnde Terry expressed firm support for Argentina's claims to sovereignty over the islands. But, concerned that the dispute threatened peace not only in South America but in the world, it called repeatedly for an end to hostilities.

Peru's first initiative — calling for a 72-hour truce — foundered when Britain demanded that Argentine forces withdraw first from the Falklands. After the failure of the mediation effort by Mr Alexander Haig, United States Secretary of State, and the subsequent intensification of fighting, Lima sought a second opportunity to play a peacemaking role.

Foreign Ministry sources said that the Government action was prompted by the American declaration last Friday of open support for Britain — a move described by the influential pro-Government weekly *Caretas*, as "Reagan's betrayal".

"Communications between Argentina and the United States were broken, so we ofered our help to try to keep conversations alive," a Peruvian official said, according to the sources, Dr Javier Arias Stella, the Peruvian Foreign Minister, telephoned the State Department on Saturday, to urge the Reagan Administration to press Britain to stop hostilities.

Over the weekend, a seven-point peace formula emerged from conversations between Mr Haig and President Belaúnde. Argentina was reported to be studying the plan when news broke of the torpedoeing of the cruiser General Belgrano. Dr Arias Stella said the incident left Argentina no alternative but to reject the peace proposals.



President Belaúnde: A friend of both sides.

However, he later indicated that the United States Peruvian initiative was stillalive, and that Peru would continue its efforts for peace. Yesterday, Peru formally protested to Britain over the sinking of the cruiser.

Speaking after a visit to Lima by two envoys of President Galtieri, Dr Arias Stella said that Peru was awaiting further reaction from Argentina. The envoys returned to Buenos Aires with "a message and some ideas and suggestions" from President Belaunde to General Galtieri.

"We must now wait for the reaction, particularly of Argentina, to what they believe could be better avenues to peace", Dr Arias Stella said. He added: "If they consider that Peru could be an avenue, then we will walk it with the greatest spirit of solidarity for the cause of Argentina and of peace".

Political sources said that Peru's diplomatic initiatives were prompted partly by President Belaúnde's fervent desire to see peace restored in the continent. A traditional friend of both the United States and Argentina, he also felt qualified to play a statesman's role in the dispute, they said.

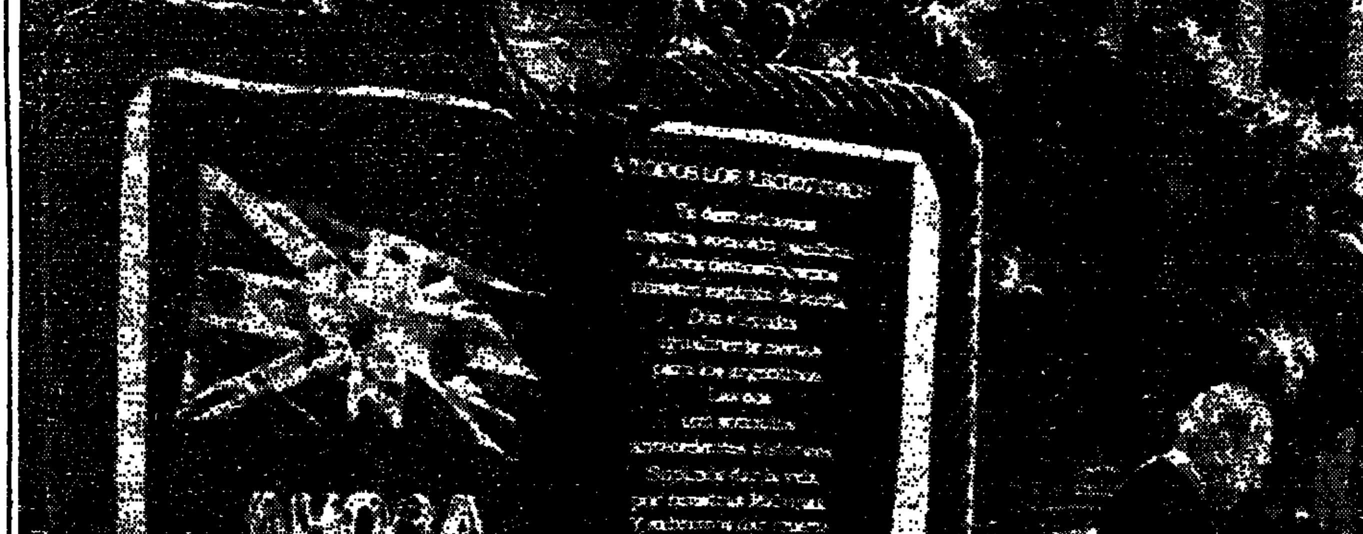
But the sources said that there was increasing pressures from Peru's strongly nationalistic armed forces for the Government to take a more resolutely pro-Argentine line. General Luis Cisneros Vizquerra, the War Minister, is known as "the Gaucho", because of his military training in Argentina. He has repeatedly said that the Peruvian armed forces are ready to give logistical support to Argentina.

Diplomatic sources said that failure to achieve a peaceful solution could provoke armed intervention by Peru, with unforeseeable consequences for the country's democratically-elected Government.

"Peace through diplomacy could be a lifeline for the civilian Government, and this has probably reinforced the politicians' determination", a foreign diplomat commented. President Belaúnde's intervention has not, however earned him unqualified praise at home. Some newspapers and opposition politicians have criticized him for making an apparently precipitous announcement last Sunday of an imminent ceasefire between Argentina and Britain. Only hours later, Argentina announced that it was rejecting the peace proposals because of the attack on the General Belgrano.

The normally pro-Government newspaper, *Ultima Hora*, said the Government had acted as a messenger of the State Department, and had been snubbed by Argentina. The independent daily, *El Observador*, ran a cartoon showing President Belaúnde, with the United States peace proposals in his hand, slipping on a banana skin. — Reuter.

The war of words



"Now ... to the Death!" says the patriotic poster in a Buenos Aires street.

Buenos Aires: Action speaks louder

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, May 5

A blood-spattered bullet-ridden Union flag appeared on municipal billboards throughout Buenos Aires today in belligerent response to the sinking of the General Belgrano, Argentina's second biggest warship.

"Now ... to the death!" the posters declared, reflecting the government's clear determination to keep everything to keeping the blue and white Argentine flag flying in Port Stanley.

"To all Argentines" the message began. "We have already shown our peaceful disposition and now we will show our fighting spirit, two equally true virtues for Argentine. We gave our lives for the Malvinas and we will kill whoever tries to take them away."

The posters are the latest development in an increasingly intensive propaganda campaign. All government communiques are now flashed immediately onto television screens, interrupting whatever dubbed American movie or dreadful local comedy might be on the air.

The message is preceded by a burst of the national anthem and then read by a breathless announcer in the manner of an overexcited football commentator. As it is read viewers are shown an emblem consisting of a flaming torch, crossed swords, a set of wings and an anchor.

The authorities have set up a bank of television sets in the Sheraton Hotel, the main base for several hundred foreign correspondents, as well as a teleprinter supplying the full service of Telam, the official news agency.

Occasionally Captain Enrique de Leon, the main military spokesman, will appear with a few titbits of gossip or unconfirmed reports of another Argentine triumph. The local newspapers gratefully seize whatever crumbs of information he supplies, presenting them in the next day's issue as incontrovertible facts.

However today's newspapers carried extensive accounts of the sinking of the Sheffild but not one, not even the tabloids, presented the disaster in any way as a great victory or as an act of retribution for the sinking of the Belgrano.

It seems the authorities have decided that the press should be restrained from their inclination to launch a campaign of jingoism.

"London admits sinking of powerful destroyer" *La Nacion* reported in a straight, uncoloured lead story. "English destroyer Sheffield sunk at the Malvinas" *La Prensa* said in an almost identical account.

Neither made more than a passing reference to the Belgrano, after filling yesterday's front pages with story, reporting merely that most of the crew had been rescued and giving a telephone number at the naval base of Puerto Belgrano for worried relatives.

The latest string of propaganda stories appeared in today's newspapers telling of a glorious encounter with two British fighter aircraft by Lieutenant Eduardo Perona over the Falklands on Saturday.

The account said "the two planes exchanged gunfire and, after they had separated, the plane piloted by Perona was damaged and the Argentine informed his chief that he was going to bale out. He was automatically ejected and as he parachuted to sea, he saw his own Mirage crash into the water and a few moments later the enemy Harrier plunged beneath the waves".

London: News presenter with a strict brief

By David Cross

Many television viewers have voiced their concern about the strange way in which Mr Ian McDonald, the man from the Ministry of Defence, gives the British view of the battle of the Falklands on the nightly news. The mechanical way in which he speaks is mystifying and even a little sinister.

But, according to Whitehall officials, this appearance is misleading. Mr McDonald is operating in highly unusual circumstances under strict guidelines laid down by his political masters.

As the Falklands crisis has developed, the British Government has decided not to be panicked into responding to Argentine claims or rumours of what is happening in the South Atlantic. Instead it is releasing information only when it believes it to be accurate and in written form.

When Mr McDonald appears on television, he is, therefore, reading from a carefully written script to which he must adhere. Moreover, many of the reporters listening to him are foreign and do not understand English particularly well, while others want him to read slowly so that they can write down his words in longhand.



Ian McDonald: Quoting Hamlet's words.

Until a month or so ago, Mr McDonald, whose official title in the Ministry of Defence is Deputy Chief Public Relations Officer, was one of those faceless bureaucrats with whom the senior echelons of the Civil Service are populated. Born in Glasgow in 1936 and educated at Glasgow High School and the University of Glasgow, he had spent virtually all his career in Whitehall.

His last job, before he joined the public relations department of the Defence Ministry two years ago, was assistant secretary in charge of Division 14, the ministry's recruitment and pay section. His current post is normally well out of the public limelight except when he meets reporters or accompanies the Defence Secretary outside Whitehall.

Defence correspondents who have regular dealings with him have grown to like him although they sometimes find his patrician manner a little difficult. Like public relations officers in the Foreign Office, Mr McDonald normally avoids the direct response to a question and enjoys dropping clues to be deciphered by his listeners.

Before his nightly television appearances, Mr McDonald [illegible] studying English [illegible] and classical Greek and collects Indian paintings. [illegible] liked to quote Shakespeare to make a point to journalists. He cited Hamlet's words: "Look here, upon this picture, and on this counterfeit presentment of two brothers" to make the point that he would not say anything he did not believe to be true in recounting the British Government's version of the battles around the Falklands.

But now that his words are being recorded for television viewers he has to be more direct and instantly comprehensible. He has a well-tuned sense of humour and he probably finds these constraints a little unnatural. Certainly his colleagues in the ministry of defence are impressed by his intellect and his willingness not to take himself so seriously.

Fighting puts strain on Bonn and Paris

By Our Foreign Staff

West Germany is deeply concerned that EEC and Nato solidarity with Britain will be badly strained if fighting continues over the Falklands.

The Cabinet yesterday repeated its urgent appeal to both sides to use all opportunities to seek a peaceful solution, and again suggested a ceasefire. "Further bloodshed must be avoided", Herr Klaus Bölling, the government spokesman, said.

He would say no more about yesterday's deliberations on the Falklands, which dominated the Cabinet session. It was understood, however, that the Germans favour a disengagement of the two navies, with each withdrawing out of reach of the others weapons and aircraft.

The West Germans feel deeply that the West's credibility in the world is at stake. "Civilized governments and public opinion all over the world will be shocked and disappointed at the West's inability to settle conflicts peaceably. They will doubt its skill at crisis management under real crisis conditions", one well-informed source said.

Bonn's loyalty seems to have been particularly strained by an apparently misleading impression given by Mrs Margaret Thatched to Herr Helmut Schmidt about her intentions. In a telephone conversation last week, the Prime Minister is understood to have convinced the Chancellor that she was seeking a peaceful solution.

Herr Willy Brandt, Chairman of the Social Democrat Party and not a Government member, expressed what many are thinking when he said: "A quarrel about points of international law, and in particular, difficulties at home, do not justify any warlike adventures which endanger world peace."

□ Paris: The escalation of the war in the South Atlantic is causing the French Government deep concern. Its continuation, with further loss of life, would place it in an embarrassing position in relation to a public opinion and the press, which are showing less and less understanding of Britain's alleged intransigence. This is the meaning of the statement issued after yesterday's Cabinet meeting, which called for "an immediate halt to hostilities".

The French Government is not weakening on the matter of principle involved; it would stand by Britain, as it has from the start, President Mitterand told a press conference at Ussel, in the Correze. But he made it clear that there must now be a return to the strict application of the United Nations Security Council resolution, and that "a separation of the military forces facing one anothr" was imperative.

□ Strasbourg: Señor José María de Areilza, president of the Council Europe, and a former Spanish Foreign Minister, issued a plea yesterday for Britain and Argentina to stop fighting and start negotiating.

He said both countries should respect the Security Council resolution, which called on Argentina to withdraw its troops from the Falklands.

□ Madrid: Political leaders and newspaper headlines expressed shock and outrage at the recent escalation of the war. The independent *Diario 16* headlined its front-page story: "Mass Murder on the High Seas".

There is a growing feeling among political leaders that Spain is being ambivalent about its position in the Falkland dispute. The Government has issued a statement condemning Britain for escalating the war, but has not taken sides, offering only to mediate.

□ Rome: The Pope called for prayers for the victims of the Falkland Islands conflict, and said he hoped that Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, United Nations Secretary-General, might bring peace between Britain and Argentina.

□ São Paulo: Brazilian public opinion is quickly coming to the conclusion that the price being paid by Britain and Argentina over the Falklands is too high. Brazil supports the Irish call for a meeting of the Security Council, and is to participate in a meeting of Latin-American members of the United Nations, called for by Argentina.

□ Stockholm: A row has erupted in Sweden over support given by Mr Ola Ullsten, the Foreign Minister for British action in the Falklands. Mr Olof Palme, the Socialist opposition leader, has strongly criticized Mr Ullsten, and demanded that he explain it to a full meeting of Parliament.

Mr Ullsten emphasized later that he was referring to the recapture of South Georgia.

Venezuela said to be giving spare parts aid

Washington, May 5.—Venezuela, considered one of Argentina's strongest supporters in its Falkland's dispute with Britain, is reported to be providing Argentina with spare parts for Mirage fighter-bombers and Canberra light bombers, US intelligence sources said today.

The sources, who asked to remain anonymous, also said that President Luis Herrera Campines of Venezuela had ordered the Venezuelan air force to prepare for unspecified flight operations, but they did not elaborate

The report that Venezuela is helping Argentina is the first indication of material aid from other Latin American countries

Venezuelan hostility to the British stems from a long-standing claim to territory in Guyana.

69 Labour MPs call for truce

By George Clark

Yesterday's Commons Order Paper contained a list of 69 Labour MPs and three nationalists who have signed the motion calling for an immediate truce in the Falklands dispute. It was tabled by Dame Judith Hart, chairman of the Labour Party, and its main sponsors include Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn (Bristol, South East), Miss Joan Maynard (Sheffield, Brightside) and Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East), who are members of the party executive.

The motion states: "That this House, deeply concerned at the escalation of conflict and loss of life in the region of the Falkland Islands, fearing that there are grave dangers of further escalation involving other countries, recognizing that a negotiated solution will be required, believing that the United Nations must be fully involved in this, urges that there should now be an immediate truce in the war before more lives are lost, and that her Majesty's Government should fully commit itself to genuine peaceful negotiation".

The other signatories are: Mr Alexander Lyon (York), Mr Reginald Freeson (Brent, East), Mr Norman Hogg (Dunbartonshire, East), Mr David Ennals (Norwich, North), Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley), Mr Russell Kerr (Hounslow, Feltham and Heston), Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South), Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride), Mr Ernest Roberts (Hackney North and Stoke Newington), Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East), Mr Stanley Thorne (Preston, South), Mr Neil Carmichael (Glasgow, Kelvingrove), Mr John Robertson (Berwick and East Lothian);

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North), Mr Stuart Holland (Lambeth, Vauxhall), Mr Ronald Brown (Edinburgh, Leith), Mr David Marshall (Glasgow, Shettleston), Mr Dennis Canavan (Stirlingshire, West), Mr Ian Mikardo (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow), Mr Harry Cowan (Newcastle upon Tyne, Central), Mrs Sheila Wright (Birmingham, Handsworth), Mr Laurence Pavitt (Brent, South), Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West), Mr Alan Williams (Swansea, West), Mr Raymond Ellis (Derbyshire, North-East), Mr Leslie Huckfield (Nuneaton), Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover), Miss Jo Richardson (Barking);

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington), Mr John Tilley (Lambeth, Central), Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham), Mr Reginald Race (Haringey, Wood Green), Mr William McKelvey (Kilmarnock), Mr Martin O'Neil (Stirlingshire, East and Clackmannan), Mr Frank Haynes (Ashfield), Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough), Mr Kenneth Eastham (Manchester, Blackley), Mr Eric Deakins (Waltham Forest, Walthamstow), Mr Sydney Bidwell (Ealing, Southall), Mr Michael Meacher (Oldham, West), Mr Julius Silverman (Birmingham, Erdington);

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport), Mr Robert Edwards (Wolverhampton, South-East), Mr Leo Abse (Pontypool), Mr William Wilson (Coventry, South-East), Mrs Renee Short (Wolverhampton, North-East), Mr Ioan Evans (Aberdare), Mr Clive Soley (Hammersmith, North), Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart), Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley), Mr Ernest Rose (Dundee, West);

Mr George Foulkes (Ayrshire, South), Mr Tam Dalyell (West Lothian), Mr Robert McTaggart (Glasgow, Central), Mr Andrew Faulds (Warley, East), Mr Michael Welsh (Don Valley), Mr Gwilym Roberts (Cannock), Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North), Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North), Mr Edward Fletcher (Darlington), Mr James Callaghan (Middleton and Prestwich), Mr William Homewood (Kettering), Mr John Fraser (Lambeth, Norwood), Mr Robert Litherland (Manchester, Central), and Mr Charles Morris (Manchester, Openshaw).

The three nationalists who signed were: Mr Gordon Wilson (Scot Nat, Dundee, East), Mr Dafydd Wigley (Plaid Cymru, Caernarfon), and Mr Dafydd Thomas (Plaid Cymru, Merioneth).

Union defends blacking of Navy film

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The film technicians' union yesterday defended its decision to "black" an official government film of the Falklands Islands conflict which has been shot by Navy cameramen.

Leaders of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) blames the Government for the industrial dispute which has meant that film normally handled by the Central Office of Information is not being processed.

The Government has not tried to get the naval film of action in the South Atlantic handled outside the COI, but the union issued a warning that its members will abide by the "blacking" ordered by the annual union conference last month.

Mr Roy Lockett, union *deputy general secretary*, read a telegram sent to the union by the Ministry of Defence requesting that the "blacking" be lifted. The union replied that it would agree if negotiations on 26 redundancies in the film unit at the COI could be reopened.

No further talks have been held and union officials said yesterday that they were prepared to continue the blacking until new talks or independent arbitration into the dispute were agreed.

Mr Robert Cryer, Labour MP for Keighley and chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party film group, told a press conference in the Commons that the Government was losing the propaganda war in the conflict with Argentina because of the union action.



Killed in action

Lieutenant Nicholas Taylor, aged 32, from Dorset, was the first British serviceman killed in action with the task force. He was shot down as he piloted his Sea Harrier in an attack on the Goose Green airstrip in the Falklands. Lieutenant Taylor, who lived in Dorset, leaves a wife, Clare, who is a Second Officer in the Wrens. His father, Mr Harry Taylor, said: "I am proud to have had a son who died doing the job he loved for the country he loved."

Cuba offers military aid

Paris, May 5.—Señor Carlos Raphael Rodriguez, the vice-president of Cuba, said today that his country would help Argentina "with every means, including military ones".

In an interview with *Le Monde*, Señor Rodriguez, who is visiting Paris, said that Cuban-American relations could hardly return to normality before a negotiated solution of conflicts in Central America had been achieved.

He said Cuba was prepared to help Argentina with every means but gave no further details. UPI.

Nato attitude agreed

From Ian Murray, Brussels, May 5

A special Euro-group meeting of Nato in Brussels today discussed the Falklands crisis in some detail as a preliminary to the two-day defence ministers' full Nato meeting.

A text showing the attitudes of the European members of the alliance to the crisis in the South Atlantic was agreed but the ministers decided to keep its contents secret until Mr John Nott, the British Defence minister, sees it.

Mr Nott did not attend the meeting because he had to appear in the House of Commons, but he flew to Brussels in the early evening to join an informal dinner of the European Defence Committee. He was then to be shown the text agreed about the South Atlantic.

Signor Lelio Lagorio, the Italian Defence Minister, who chaired the meeting, said that the agreed statement might be changed after Mr Nott had a chance to study it.

Earlier, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, who is in Brussels for the full Nato meeting, said he had found total solidarity with Britain during a series of bilateral meetings he had held during the day with European members of the alliance.

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 29; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dh 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 155; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 50p; Italy L 1800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 6.60; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS5.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 60.

The loss of HMS Sheffield

Direct hit raises questions on Navy's defence

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The comprehensive destruction of the destroyer Sheffield by a single missile is raising a number of embarrassing questions for Britain and for Nato about the shape of the fleet, the design of its ships and the weapons they carry.

In one sense Tuesday's disaster vindicates the complaint of Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, last year that too much is spent on weapon platforms for the armed forces and not enough on the weapons themselves.

This is not the first time that the 14 Type 42 destroyers *in the Royal Navy* have been surrounded by controversy. The 4,000-ton ships which cost about £85m two years ago and more than £5m a year to operate, have long been criticized for being under-armed.

They were designed primarily to accommodate the Sea Dart area air defence missile and thus help to provide protection from enemy aircraft for task forces like the one now in the South Atlantic.

Sea Dart can also be used against other ships, which is just as well because the only other weapons on the Type 42 comprise a 4.5in gun, two 20mm connon and a Lynx helicopter.

An article in the authoritative journal *Navy International* at the time of the Sheffield's acceptance by the fleet in the mid-1970's compared her mix of weapons unfavourably with that of the Soviet Krivak class ships whose size is comparable. It commented with what now turns out to have been sad prescience: "..it would be scarcely wise to allow her out in dangerous waters alone".

But in this case it would seem that she was not alone. Moreover the Sheffield was struck by a missile fired not from another ship but from one of the very aircraft against which the Sea Dart system was supposed to protect the task force.

The Super Etendard which launched the Exocet was probably operating out of one of Argentina's southern based such as Rio Gallegos or Tierra del Fuego.

Its redius of action like *that of all combat* aircraft, depends upon its payload, speed and altitude, but with an Exocet under the atarboard wing and a 1,100-litre external fuel tank strapped to the port wing it could prebably manage 450 miles.

This should have been enough if the pilot had had another surveillance aircraft pinpointing his target for him first and guiding *him* straight to it. Argentina has also two Hercules tankers for in-flight refuelling, which would remain well behind the combat zone because of their volnerablilty. But it is questionable whether the five Super Etedards in service with the Argintines are fitted for mid-air refuelling.

If the Sheffield was operating as a picket, standing off from the main task force ships such as the Hermes and the Invincible, it would have presented the pilot with a clear target. He would have had to climb to identify it at long range, then would sink once more below the horizon -n disappearing from the redar screens on the Sheffield almost as quickly as he came.

He would have fed the target information into the Exocet's computer before firing the missile and watching it begin its sea-skimming journey of 20 miles or more at a speed slightly below that of sound. In the last stage of its flight the Exocet's own homing radar would have taken over and guided it to the bustling heart of the destroyer.

Sea Dart has a good performance against aircraft at high and medium altitude, and a range far greater than the 25 miles published. But the aircraft would have been at altitude only briefly and the missile not at all.

The most important lesson for the Navy is the necessity of finding a place on all its ships for Sea Wolf, the lightning fast anti-missile-so far installed only on two frigates with the task force, the new Type 22 ships Broadsword and Brilliant.

The unique British Aerospace Sea Wolf, so fast and accurate that it can split a shell in two in mid-flight, has so far taken up too much space for naval designers to find room for it on warships not specifically built with the system in mind.

But a lightweight system with a new radar being developed by Marconi, which recently won the contract against strong competition from a Dutch company, is about to become available.

Plans to fit lightweight Seawolf to a wider variety of vessels were thrown in jeopardy by the naval cuts last year. But this disaster off the Falkland Islands has at least demonstrated the need for most, if not all, major warships to have anti-missile systems in addition to decoy and jamming countermeasures

Yet another field for investigation during the coming months, however, is what happened after the Exocet struck. The Sheffield is fitted with all the latest anti-fire devices including sprinkler systems, fireproof doors and hatches and foam extinguishers. Her hull is made of steel not aluminium as reported elsewhere.

Yet the crew were forced to abandon ship because the high explosive missile caused a fire which was beyond the control of the destroyer's own fire-fighting teams and those from other ships.

An inquiry is understood to have already started among the task force following the loss of the Sheffield. Two other Type 42 destroyers are on hand and the Sea Dart system is also installed on the carrier Invincible. But a decision will have to be made on whether a replacement for the stricken Sheffield is needed.

HMS Sheffield Type 42 destroyer
Radio and radar aerials
Radome (radar equipment)
Radio equipment
Lynx helicopter (with Sea Skua missiles)
Hangar
"Bedstead" radar antenna
2 Sea Dart missile launchers (22 missiles carried)
Radome
Vickers Mark 8 4.5in automatic gun
Life rafts
Crew's quarters
Life rafts
Engine rooms
2 20mm Oerlikon guns
Missile believed to have struck here
Operations room



Deadly weapon: The French-made Exocet missile.

Reinforcing the fleet

The loss of HMS Sheffield, whose main features are *illustrated above*, has spurred Tyneside into "superhuman efforts" to speed up delivery of the Royal Navy's latest ship.

This will be the £200m anti-submarine aircraft carrier, HMS Illustrious (below, berthed at the Swan Hunter dock), sister ship to HMS Invincible, now the spearhead of the task force in the South Atlantic.

The 18,000-ton carrier was not due to be handed over until September. Now every effort is being made to bring the date forward to June.

At the same time, preparations are almost complete for the launching ceremony on Saturday of HMS Beaver, a Type 22 frigate being built at Yarrow's Shipyard on the Clyde. The ship will be equipped with Exocet guided missiles, similar to the weapon that hit HMS Sheffield on Tuesday.



Admiral may be under threat

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, May 5

Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya, the commander of the Argentine Navy and member of the three-man ruling junta in Buenos Aires, may be "the first head to roll" as a result of the Falklands crisis, according to the Washington-based Council on Hemispheric Affairs.

The council, which is sponsored by American trade unions and professional and academic groups and is one of a number of specialist organizations frslinh with Latin American affairs made its assessment before the successful Argentine attack on the Sheffield.

It said Admiral Anaya was responsible for the dispatch of a group of scrap metal workers to Soluth Georgia in March 20. Their subsequent expulsion by the British provided the pretext for Argentina's invasion of the Falklands two weeks later. The provocation, according to the council, was intended by Admiral Anaya unilaerally ordered several Argentine warships, including its only aircraft carrier, the twenty-fith of May, to set sail on April 15 from Puerto Belgra*no*, without any prior consultation with other members of the armed forces joint chiefs of staff. Since then, the Argentine Navy has suffered severe losses.

The Argentine Army and Air Force have reluctantly been dragged by Admiral Anaya's actions into a conflict about which they have serious misgivings. General Basilio Lami Dozo, the chief of the Air Force, is said to be hesitant to commit his force to battle for fear of losing its aircraft.

They would be of crucial importance if Argentina went to war with Chile over the Beagle Channel dispute. The Air Force has spent tens of millions of dollars on new aircraft since the two countries nearly went to war in 1979. Admiral Anaya was the main instigator of the flare-up in the Beagle Channel dispute.

"The Argentine high command is in obvious and serious dissarray because of Anaya's privateering", the council said. "His maverick actions will be used by the high command to avoid taking direct responsibility for what is quickly developing into a major military and political disaster for Argentina."

The council says that divisiveness is now so pronounced within the armed forces that Argentina has no hope of staging an effective counter-offensive to British tactics.

Ottawa is accused of hypocrisy

From John Best
Ottawa, May 5

The Canadian government has been accused of hypocrisy in continuing to ship nuclear fuel bundles to Argentina in the Falkland Islands crisis. The accusation was one of several made to Mr Mark MacGurgan, the External Affairs Minister, at a lively meeting last night, of the House of Commons standing committee on foreign affairs, which was dominated by the Falklands question.

Mr MacGurgan told Mr John Crosbie, the foreign affairs spokesman of the official Conservative opposition, that Canada has given strong moral support to Britain besides banning military exports to Argentina and allowing Britain the use of communications facilities on Canada's east coast. Britain's use of force in the hostilities had been proper and reasonable so far as he could determine.

Nevertheless he was "concerned" about the increasing loss of life in the Falklands conflict and had ordered Canadian diplomats at the United Nations to increase their efforts in support of a negotiated solution.

Mr MacGurgan rejected Mr Crosbie's demand that Canada halt the shipment of nuclear fuel

If Canada broke its contracts the Buenos Aires Government migh feel free to use a nuclear power station being built by Canadian engineers in Argentina "in ways we would not approve", an apparent reference to the possibility of making nuclear bombs from the station's spent fuel.

Mr Robert Wenman another prominent Conservative MP, attacked the Government from a different direction. While agreeing that Britain's position was morally and legally correct, he observed critically that several hundred people had now died protecting the rights of 1,800 Falklanders. Canada was a friend of Britain but Mr Wenman asked: "Don't you have an obligation to draw them back from the fight?" Mr macGurgan insisted that Canada had taken "a responsible and honourable position".

Government pays first P & O bill

The Government has started to pay some of the bills from P & O for its requisitioned vessels — the liners Canberra and Uganda, and the cargo ships Norland and Elk. The direct bill for the use of the vessels, and their operating costs, is believed to be around £290,000 a day. Mr Richard Adams, P & O's managing director, said the company had been paid for the first month.

He said the company had submitted an application for compensation, but there has been no response from the Government. P & O want to know whether the Government will pay for loss of business on its cruise liners when they are returned to civilian use.

Jamming is stepped up

The Argentine authorities yesterday stepped up their jamming of BBC programmes in Spanish to Latin America with the introduction of a fresh type of interference (Kenneth Gosling writes).

Jamming of three of the six BBC frequencies began on Monday with the sound of a fast and continuous telephone dialling tone. Yesterday this was augmented by a succession of Morse code type dots, but reports from Argentina suggest that the broadcasts can still be heard and understood.

Dakar stopover

Senegal has confirmed that British aircraft are using Dakar as a stopover on the way to Ascension Island in the South Atlantic. Mr Djibo Ka the Information Minister said that the use of Dakar was "certainly" within the terms of agreements that existed between Britain and the Senegal.

Seamen say no

Seamen at Felixtowe, Suffolk, decided yesterday to heed their union's advice not to sail their vessels Nordic Ferry and Baltic Ferry to the Falklands Islands. Both vessels have been requisitioned by the Ministry of Defence.

Smoke from sea to clouds

From John Witherow on board HMS Invincible in the South Atlantic

In a report carried in the final edition of yesterday's The Times, John Witherow, in a pooled dispatch, told of the destruction of the Sheffield:

The fleet was attacked by two Super Etendard jets carrying Exocet missiles. One missile went past the Sheffield but the second scored a direct hit on her. A massive pall of smoke appeared on the horizon as Sea King helicopters ferried casualties back to the flagship carrier HMS Hermes. The Sheffield, about 15 miles away, was completely blotted out by the smoke which formed a solid column from the sea to the clouds.

As fires raged in the Sheffield a call was put out for hoses and pumping equipment to be dropped by helicopter. A frigate went alongside to help tackle the fires but three hours later it was decided to give the order to abandon ship because of the danger of a possible explosion of the Sheffield's own Sea Dart missiles.

Two hours after the attack the Invincible's crew were told: "Sheffield is floating level and high in the water. There are fires still burning on board."

It was 14.15 GMT when the alarm sounded on the Invincible and the 1,000-man crew were told: "Air raid imminent from the South West. Two aircraft at 60 miles and closing." Shortly afterwards came the report "Sheffield may have been hit." Five minutes later the intercom crackled: "Sheffield is some 15 to 20 miles to the South West. She has been hit by an air-launched Exocet missile. They are currently fighting the fire."

Fifteen minutes later, as frigates around Invincible put up an anti-missile screen, an officer told the crew: "We may be about to come under missile attack."

The crew all hit the deck and spread themselves on the floor as a means of *minimizing* personal injury. The carrier shook with vibration as its engines were turned up to full speed as it moved this way and that through the water.

There were loud whooshes and explosions as Invincible's anti-missile screens were deployed. The sounds caused everyone to jump as they were just like the noise of an incoming rocket. One minute later the ship's crew were told: "The picture is somewhat confused. But there are almost certainly now no missiles in flight."

At that point a frigate launched a torpedo attack against a suspected enemy submarine beneath the task force. She reported loud underwater explosions and helicopters were called in to carry out sonar sweeps for submarines. From the Invincible could be seen a sea full of warships all manoeuving at top speed in defensive formations.

As the news about the Sheffield came through, 22 year-old Tom Cunningham, from Liverpool, a Naffi counter assistant who signed on for active naval service only two days ago for the duration of hostilities, said: "My future brother- in-law is on the Sheffield. I was at his house only a few days before we left the United Kingdom. I can't believe this has happened. Sheffield was at Gibraltar when we sailed from Portsmouth."



Captain James "Sam" Salt, commander of HMS Sheffield, who comes from Petersfield, Hampshire.

Portsmouth mourns victims

From David Hewson, Portsmouth

Portsmouth found itself faced with the recurrent fear of a naval city yesterday, the reminder that the darker side of glory is grief. The loss of the destroyer Sheffield was met with incomprehension, sadness and an impotent anger by both civilians and naval personnel. The destroyer was based at Portsmouth and had last visited it in November before sailing for the Indian Ocean.

Two British warships have been on permanent patrol off the Gulf of Oman since the start of the Iran-Iraq war. When the Falklands hostilities broke out, the Sheffield was on its way home to Britain and preparations were well advanced for a party for the crews' families on board at Portsmouth.

On Tuesday night the same families were in constant touch with the special switchboards of the Naval Families Service in Portsmouth which were set up to deal with inquiries from relatives after the news broke of the ship's loss.

A team of naval chaplains, officers and social workers who had been on 24 hour call for such emergencies for the last four weeks set off to meet the families of the dead seamen early yesterday.

Flags were at half mast throughout the city. Mr John Marshall, the leader of the City Council's ruling Conservative group, said that the mood was "sad but unshaken".

"It is unfortunately part of our history and part of our destiny to face this tragic happening. We can only show solidarity and support for the ships and men still there," he said.

A number of people had contacted the council about the incident. "They have been a bit grim-faced and tight-lipped but they don't want to feel that these lives have been lost in vain." Far from fearing further engagements, the people of Portsmouth may want them more than the rest of the country, Mr Marshall said.

"I rather question whether people round here are very sympathetic about the United Nations. The media seemed extraordinarily concerned about the Belgrano, almost as if the BBC was trying to be impartial. That isn't the way we look at it," Mr Marshall said.

"There was a remarkable expression of patriotism when the two aircraft carriers left here. Tens of thousands of people saluted them. I think there is now a kind of gut reaction which says that it is time we should stop being pushed around."

Mr Marshall said that he was in Portsmouth during the last War when the Hood, the Prince of Wales and the Repulse were lost.

"I suppose during the war you accepted it and Portsmouth itself had suffered terribly. I think this has been something of a shock after so long," he said.

A memorial service will be held for the dead of the Sheffield though probably not until after the Falklands crisis is settled.

☐ Sheffield: As flags were flying at half-mast throughout the city, the City Council passed a formal resolution yesterday urging the Prime Minister to take every possible step to end the conflict in the South Atlantic and begin talks at the United Nations to bring about a ceasefire. Councillors also resolved to do all in their power to help the bereave and injured resulting from the missile attack on the destroyer Sheffield.

"There isn't anyone in *Sheffield* who is not absolutely stunned by the loss," Mrs Enid Hattersley, the Lord Mayor said. "We had a very close relationship with the ship and her crew".

A message of sympathy is is expected to go from the city to the Royal Navy; plans for a commemorative service may be made later. Mrs Hattersley recently invited all the crew and officers of the Sheffield for a civic reception at the town hall.

PARLIAMENT May 5 1982

Haig proposals still best way forward

FALKLANDS

An early ceasefire is a vital ingredient of the diplomatic ideas for solving the Falklands crisis on which the British Government and Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, are working, Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in a statement in the Commons.

The Government was sparing no efforts in the search for an acceptable solution in line with the principles he had stated on several occasions.

Although it is we who have been the victims of aggression (he said) it is also we who are working tirelessly and constructively for a peaceful solution.

Mr Pym said: The military losses which have now occurred on both sides in this unhappy conflict emphasize all the more the urgent need to find a diplomatic solution.

The House will wish to know that since my return from the United States on Monday I have remained in the closest possible touch with Mr Haig.

As I reported to the House yesterday, we are working very actively on ideas put to us by Mr Haig, including some advanced by the President of Peru. Yesterday afternoon, after my statement, I sent a constructive contribution of our own to Mr Haig. He is taking this fully into account. I shall be in touch with him again later on today.

I want to tell the House that a vital ingredient of the ideas on which we are working is an early ceasefire and the prompt withdrawal of Argentine forces. I can assure the House that we are sparing no efforts in the search for an acceptable solution in line with the principles which we have stated on several occasions.

The points which were put to me in New York by the Secretary-General of the United Nations are also receiving our very careful attention. I have been in touch with Mr Perez de Cuellar about this since my return from New York and will continue to keep in close contact with him.

There are many points of similarity between the Secretary-General's thinking and the points we are pursuing with Mr Haig. Indeed, Mr Perez de Cuellar's helpful ideas seem certain to be reflected in the basis of any solution which we may be able to achieve.

I can assure the House that any obstructionism there may be will not come from our side. Although it is we who have been the victims of aggression, it is also we who are working tirelessly and constructively for a peaceful solution. (Cheers.)

Mr Denis Healey, deputy Leader of the Opposition and spokesman on foreign and commonwealth affairs: We all feel that if military escalation continues in the way it has over the past few days, more lives could be lost, both Argentinian and British, than there are inhabitants on the Falkland Islands. It underlines the paramount necessity of achieving a diplomatic solution.

Can Mr Pym confirm reports that Mr Haig has asked for a two-day ceasefire so that diplomatic possibilities can be further explored, and if that is the case, what response the British Government has given?

I particularly welcomed what he said about the United Nations Secretary General, which was a good deal more forthcoming than what he said yesterday which in turn was more forthcoming than what he said last Thursday.

I see that the Secretary-General is reported in *The Times* today as saying that the suspension of the peace initiative by Mr Haig has created a diplomatic vacuum which only the United Nations can fill.

As he will know, that has been the view of the Opposition for some time.

As I understand it, the Argentine Government has already agreed to accept the good offices of the United Nations. I appeal to Mr Pym to agree that the British Government should do the same. *I think that* any doubts it might have had at one time must have been removed by the Secretary-General's statement yesterday that he insists on the full implementation of resolution 502 which requires Argentine forces to leave the Falkland Islands.

I was particularly glad to hear Mr Nott endorse my words this morning, that a ceasefire must depend on agreement on negotiating processes which will get Argentine forces off the islands. That is an important distinction from the demand that a ceasefire cannot take place until Argentine forces have left.

Mr Pym: I thank him for what he said at the beginning and recognize that we share a desire to achieve a peaceful settlement if it can be done.

About the two-day ceasefire, in connexion with any negotiated settlement which involves withdrawal, arrangement for a ceasefire is an inevitable part and is and always has been part of the discussion.

It is helpful that I am in close touch with the UN Secretary-General. He has offered his good offices to the Argentine and the United Kingdom and I have responded in that sense to him.

We have shared ideas. The ideas he sent recently I am responding to.

There has been no suspension of the peace initiative by Mr Haig. Mr Healey perhaps implied that Mr Haig's efforts had come to an end. That is not so. It is clear that they began a new phase when the Argentines rejected the proposals put forward earlier. It is helpful that his efforts are continuing.

I do not agree that only the United Nations can fill the vacuum. I am not so worried about how it is filled, so long as it is.

In my opinion, the Haig efforts are the most helpful basis for achieving a settlement but I do not exclude anything else and certainly not the United Nations.

Mr Healey: It has been widely reported that the Secretary General has put various proposals to the British and Argentine Governments for a substantive solution to the crisis and is asking the British Government and the Argentine Government to respond to his proposals today.

Can Mr Pym confirm those reports and inform the House that the British Government will take the initiative in responding and not hide behind a possible refusal of the Argentine Government to respond, as was the case with the Haig proposals earlier?

Mr Pym: There is no question of hiding behind anything. I have been in touch with the Secretary-General and responding on the outlines he has been speaking about, but I am of the view that the Haig proposals are more likey to lead to a way forward.

Mr Healey: Have proposals been made? I do not blame him for not disclosing them, as this is a matter which requires to be kept under diplomatic privacy, but if the proposals have been made we would wish a positive response. Could it be without delay?

Mr Pym: No formal proposals have been put to me in that sense. they were ideas. He is getting a response from me: what is happening in the Argentine I do not know. I am in close touch and that *seems the* most helpful reply and most positive position in which I can be.

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab): How many more lives have to be lost before the Government fully realizes there can be no purely military solution to this crisis? If the *Government is seriously intent* on a long-term peaceful solution why does it not comply with the increasing demand from some Labour MPs and also nationally and internationally, for an immediate ceasefire and for the United Nations, not the United States to act as a mediator?

The situation is in danger of it escalating into a fullscale blood bath where no one will win and Britain will find itself increasingly isolated.

Mr Pym: I would like an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal which the Argentine is under an obligation to do under resolution 502. At the moment the Argentine shows no sign of doing so, indeed entirely to the contrary.

I am searching for this solution notwithstanding the fact that we are the victims and the country that has suffered an act of aggression when the Falkland Islands was invaded. There does *not seen to be a desire on the* other side, or very little desire that we have seen so far, for seeking an agreement.

Mr Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford, C): The indivisibility of the question of sovereignty allows little scope for negotiation.

Has the worsening weather in the South Atlantic had an effect on the attempt of an invasion of the Falkland Islands by prolonging negotiations for withdrawal?

In these circumstances the most effective negotiating weapon available to us is likely to prove to be a military weapon used in the legitimate exercise of force.

Mr Pym: I note carefully what he has said, but I would infinitely prefer that these troops leave the islands under peaceful means rather than be driven out by force and if anyone can achieve that everyone *would be relieved.*

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighly, Lab): Would he confirm that resolution 502 does not give carte blanche for any military action by the Government but calls for a cessation of hostilities and a negotiated peaceful resolution of the dispute?

Does not the Government recognise the escalation of the military activity could result in the deaths of the Falkland Islander — the very people we are claiming we are seeking to defend?

Does he not realise that by military action the Government is *seen to be less and less willing to* find a diplomatic settlement and more and more for a military settlement?

Mr Pym: The resolution also calls for withdrawal which he did not mention. I am thinking of the islanders and they are suffering at the moment under the heel of the invader whom they did not want and did not invite and which is intent on imposing on them a way of life and government they did not want.

It is in their defence we have taken the steps we have. They are at the moment suffering under an invading country and there are far too many invading countries in the *world at the* present time. We have that very much in mind.

Mr Jonathon Aitken (Thanet, East, C): There remains a formidable problem in negotiating with the Argentine Junta since its leaders have shown themselves to speak with divided *contradictory* and often incoherent voice.

Will he be appropriately cautious about negotiating terms for a ceasefire or anything like it until they have shown by their deeds that they are withdrawing their troops?

Mr Pym: Yes, I am showing appropriate caution, I will also show appropriate enthusiasm. It is difficult to negotiate with the Argentines because their construction of government is such that even proposals by the President can be overthrown, and sometimes in the middle of the night.

Mr David Trippier (Rossendale, C): Is it correct to assume that the formal negotiations by Mr Haig are inter-linked with those persued by Peru?

Mr Pym: The proposals by the United States about a week or 10 days ago and turned down by Argentina are over. Since then a number of governments have produced ideas and at present we are working on proposals which are a mixture of those of the United States and those from the President of Peru.

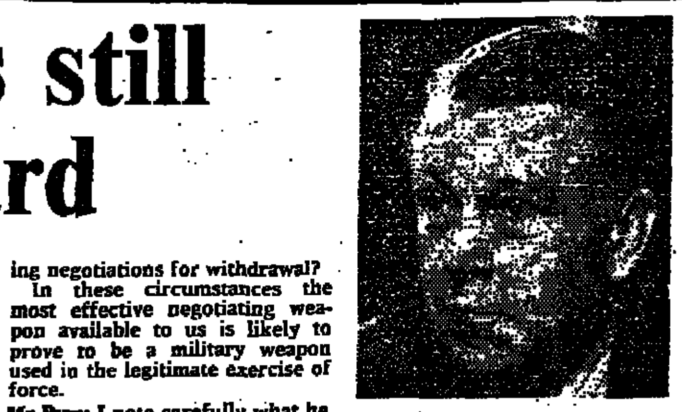
Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devenport, SDP). We fully support his intention of linking *any early ceasefire with the* withdrawal of Argentine forces and no doubt the withdrawal of British forces from the South Atlantic as well.

Is there any possibility of the Peruvian Government actually putting down proposals rather than going into the Security Council debate? Many people expect a clearer indication from the British Government of its long-term position. Will he positively welcome the concept of a trusteeship council?

Mr Pym: There were some proposals that originated in Peru completely and these have been *absorbed within other* negotiations. I hope out of them will come proposals that will have a chance of success. Mr Haig is in touch with Peru and working in that way and through them as they are friends with the Argentine and this may be a good way to negotiate with the Argentine.

In the long term the Government has borne in mind about anything that might be a solution and the trusteeship concept is one of these and may in the end prove to be a highly satisfactory one: I do not know. It is certainly a concept which can be considered.

Mr Ian Lloyd (Havant and Waterloo, C): While the House and the country obviously wish



Pym: Responding to UN ideas.

him well in any negotiations which do not prejudice our fundamental national objectives, it is preferable sooner than later that we should recognize that the task force will not be able to achieve its objectives, failing a negotiated settlement, unless the Argentines are not capable of operating missile-carrying aircraft from any runways within striking distance of the carrier fleet.

Mr Pym: Naturally, military considerations and aspects are being thought about in great depth, and possible plans are being prepared. That is right because we have a task force in the South Atlantic. Let us at the moment concentrate our minds on trying to achieve a peaceful settlement.

Mr Healey: There is a risk that unless we ourselves take an early initiative into the UN we may find our action preempted by representatives in he Security Council whose interests are by no means as benign or well informed as our own.

Mr Pym: I am not convinced that another initiative within the UN would help. It is a possible option, but at the moment we would hope for resolution 502 which has to be carried out.

I have to bear in mind a carefully how it is to our best advantage and to the advantage of getting a peaceful settlement to take any further initiative in the UN.

Condition for suspending operations

One aspect of the Government's conduct about which Labour peers felt disquiet was whether the Government was giving full weight to the need to involve the United Nations, Lord Stewart of Fulham, for the Opposition, said after Lord Belstead, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had repeated in the House of Lords Mr Pym's statement on diplomatic moves over the Falkland Islands.

Lord Mayhew (L) said that Liberal peers would regard a ceasefire which allowed the re-supplying and reinforcement of the islands as totally unacceptable.

Lord Belstead *said the* Government told the UN Secretary General last night that it was considering the ideas that came up when the Foreign Secretary saw the Secretary General.

The Secretary General had not described his ideas as being formal proposals or a UN plan.

I would like to make clear (he added) that the Foreign Secretary welcomes the Secretary General's concern and is intending to keep in close touch with him. He will be giving the Secretary General very shortly a fuller indication of our thinking.

Our basic objective remains unaltered — to secure the withdrawal from the Falkland Islands of all the occupying Argentine forces, as called for by the Security Council resolution 502. Our operations will be suspended as soon as this objective is secured.

He said that a precondition which was still being put by the *Argentines was that for* any negotiations to take place, the result of those negotiations would already have been decided in Argentine's favour.

That will not do (he said) if a just solution is to be reached. (Cheers)

Lord Hankey (Ind) suggested there might be a case for using maximum force and settling the matter "jolly quickly".

Lord Belstead: We must do one more thing. We are ready at all times to enter into proper negotiarions on this matter. We are ready to use the good offices *of the President of Peru, of Mr* Haig, and of the UN Secretary General, but it has got to be for fair and just negotiations.

Nott appeals to media to respect privacy of relatives

TASK FORCE

On no account must British ships in the task force in the South Atlantic be hazarded by giving information prematurely, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, said in a further statement to the Commons about the loss of HMS Sheffield and further questions about the sinking of the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano.

The task force, he explained, could not conceivably have any lesser rules of engagement than those the Government issued which were to allow the ships to defend themselves as a fleet.

Members of the Opposition parties in the House associated themselves with expressions of sympathy with the next of kin of those on HMS Sheffield who are missing and the Sea Harrier pilot who lost his life. Mr Nott appealed to press, radio and television to give some privacy in the next few days to the families of those involved in this tragedy.

Mr Nott, in his further statement about the Argentine attack on HMS Sheffield, said:

In the statement I made to the House late last (Tuesday) night I provided an outline of the attack on HMS Sheffield and of the loss of one of our Sea Harriers and its pilot. The pilot was Lieutenant Nicholas Taylor. His next-of-kin have been informed and the whole House will I know wish to join me in expressing sorrow and deepest sympathy with his family. (Cheers)

It is entirely right that the House should now have as full an account of the attack on HMS Sheffield as I am able to give today. The House will understand why it will be necessary for me to repeat some of the details I provided last night.

At about 3.30 London time yesterday afternoon HMS Sheffield was attacked by Argentine Super Etendard aircraft which launched Exocet missiles. HMS Sheffield was some 70 miles off the Falklands enforcing the total exclusion zone, together with other elements of the task force.

One missile missed the ship; the other hit her amidships. The resulting explosion caused a major fire. Although attempts were made to extinguish the fire for nearly four hours, with the assistance of fire-fighting teams from other ships in the area, it eventually spread out of control.

At about 7pm London time the order was given to abandon ship. Ships of the task force in the area picked up survivors, and the latest information I have is that about 30 men are still missing. A further number sustained injuries, and they are being well cared for under medical supervision. *We have no further details of* casualties at the present time.

The ships are still engaged on operations and I know that the force commander will provide further information just as soon as he is able to do so. All the next-of-kin of the ship's company are being informed. The thoughts of the *whole* House are *with* them at this sad time. (Renewed cheers)

Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the Opposition and chief spokesman on foreign affairs, said: May I associate the Opposition with the tribute to the courage of the Harrier pilot and *the crew of the Sheffield and our* sympathy for the families of those who gave their lives in the defence of the principle which is regarded as of great importance by all members of the House. (Cheers).

Is there any truth in the report in American press and television that a major naval engagement is proceeding in the South Atlantic?

I hope the Secretary of State will concede that the Argentinians knew the position of our task force yesterday and therefore its position on Sunday, when the attack on the Argentine cruiser took place, is no longer a matter which needs to be *concealed from the House or the* world.

I hope he will find it possible to give us a better idea of the distance between the point where the engagement took place and the task force because if he is unable to do so then inevitably MPs and foreign countries are *bound to take his silence to imply* that the decision to attack the cruiser was taken by the submarine commander without reference to the commander of the task force, perhaps because he was physically unable to communicate with him.

If this was the case then it argues that there is a serious handicap in the political control of our forces at a time when the House agrees with the Secretary of State that we must always us minimum force under political control in order to achieve diplomatic objectives.

Mr Nott: I appreciate Mr Healey's first comment that many men are missing and probably are dead defending principles which, he said, he thought were supported by the House, I much appreciate those words of his.

We have no knowledge of any naval battle going on in the Atlantic at the present time. I am aware there have been reports from American sources that one is happening. I cannot be sure — (some Labour interruptions) — but we have no reports of it. I did check on that quite recently. (Labour shouts of "Political control?")

I am sorry but it is impossible at a distance of 8,000 miles to require our task force commander repeatedly during the day to communicate with London. (Conservative cheers).

As for his point about distance, which he raised yesterday, I see no reason at all why within a few days' time we should not be able to provide him with that information. There is no reason to conceal it.

We think that HMS Sheffield may have been detected by an Argentine reconnaissance aircraft. We cannot be sure. We think it may have been and that was possibly the reason why they attacked with Exocet missiles.

It underlines that we must not on any account hazard our ships by giving information prematurely. I do not want to conceal information from Mr Healey that can be safely announced.

As for his last question, I made clear yesterday that every action by our forces in the South *Atlantic is taken within* strict political control and authority. The actual decision to launch the torpedo was clearly a decision



Wall: Missile age reached.

taken by the submarine commander but that decision was taken within very clear rules of engagement which had been settled in London and discussed by the Government.

We regarded the Belgrano as a threat to our forces. We cannot conceivably have had any lesser rules of engagement than those we issued which were to alllow our ships to defend themselves as a fleet.

Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C) said that for the Royal Navy the loss of a ship was a dreadful thing and nothing could make up for the personal terrible grief and sense of loss to the next of kin.

Will Mr Nott assure the House (he went on) that wherever it is humanly possible the next of kin will hear of these events before the news is released to the agencies? Would it not be preferable for an officer to visit the next of kin and assure himself that there is no immediate personal hardship and to explain to them their entitlements?

Mr Nott: an organization has been set up to process all casualty information and there are sub-units in naval bases *which receive information* and inform the next of kin. They are normally informed by a selected officer, preferably by a home visit, but by telephone if that is essential. This is done as quickly as possible after information has been received from the task force.

It would be very much appreciated by the Royal Navy and the next of kin if those involved in this tragedy could be given some privacy by the media for the next few days. I only ask that because of some problems which I think have arisen today. (Cheers)

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles) associated himself and his colleagues with the expression of sympathy for the relatives of those lost.

Is it true (he asked) that consideration had been given to supplying this ship with a stretched version of the Sea Dart with an up-dated tracker radar but that was one of the casualties of the defence review?

Mr Nott: The Sheffield was armed with Sea Dart missiles of the latest kind. These missiles are an area air defence weapon. They are not very successful against incoming missiles of a particular kind. They are primarily for engaging on an area basis incoming aircraft. That is the principal defence of the Sheffield.

We do not know why the Sea Dart system did not successfully engage the aircraft. It is possible that the aircraft came in very low, under radar cover. But there was nothing in the equipment of this ship which deferred in any way from the normal complement of weapons on our Type 42 destroyers.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): The disaster to the Sheffield, a ship which has immense ties with the city of that name, has resulted in a great groundswell of desire for negotiation on peace, not only in Sheffield, but much farther.

Telegrams have come to the council in Sheffield from, for example, many factories and to Sheffield MPs down here, and this afternoon in the city there is an ordinary council meeting at which the leader of the council will be moving a resolution in which he asks, on behalf of the council, for negotiations through the United Nations on the question of peace.

Does the Secretary of State not agree that the insistence that no negotiations will take place as long as those troops are on the Falklands is a break against the struggle for peace, and is it not time this was quashed and that we went to the United Nations and discussed the question of a peaceful solution through negotiation?

Mr Nott: Of course there is a desire for peace. *It is widespread* in the country. It is shared by MPs on both sides of the House. We want to obtain as soon as we possibly can a diplomatic settlement to this problem. Mr Healey made a very *fair* and *reasonable* comment on the *Today* programme, which was very good.

He said: "It would not be to Britain's advantage to agree to a ceasefire unless we are clear that we had a negotiating process which would get the Argentines off fthe island." That is, I think, the general view of the whole House. It is not shared by every MP, but it is the general view of the House and I share it.

Mr Peter Griffiths (Portsmouth North, C): The most appropriate memorial to the brave young men who lost their lives in HMS Sheffield, a ship whose home port is my constituancy and which has brought a tragedy to that city and my constituents, would be that we should carry through the enterprise for which they gave their lives as quickly as possible and with as little further loss of lives as may be possible.

The quickest way that that can be done would be for the Argentine Government to agree to remove its troops from the Falkland Islands.

Mr Nott: I entirely agree the way in which this conflict canbe ended straight away is for the Argentine to agree to implement Resolution 502. If in the next few days they do not in any way challenge our ships and our men and threaten them, and they cease coming into the total exclusion zone; then no casualties can arise.



Dormand: Concern over torpedo decision.

The way to solve this conflict is for them to abide by the UN resolution.

Mr John Dormand (Easington, Lab): The Secretary of State said there were difficulties in maintaining communications between the task force and the Government. I fully accept that there must be real difficulties in doing that. He then went on to say there was full political control of the decisions of the task force.

Some of us are concerned about the way the decision was taken to fire two torpedoes. Is there some inconsistency here which needs some explanation?

Mr Nott: When ships are engaged in operations which are dangerous they are subjected constantly to attack and are frequently imposing upon themselves radio silence, because unless they are on radio silence their position can be detected. Therefore there will be periods when we are not in contact, for very good operational reasons, with all of our ships.

Our communications via satellite and other methods are excellent with the task force and more than sufficient for us to pass political directive and political orders to the commander of the task force. Sometimes there are delays for the reasons I have given.

Sir Frederick Burden (Gillingham, C): While we are pursuing every effort to bring about a diplomatic settlement of this dispute, the Argentines at this moment are determined to deploy all the military strength they can against the task force.

Should we not recognize this and no longer talk about using minimum force against an enemy prepared to deploy his greatest strength against us and use our strength as heavily as possible to bring this dispute to an end and the Argentines to the diplomatic table?

Mr Nott: In saying that we wish to pursue minimum force that does not mean in any way that we are asking our forces to hold back on the pursuance of their objectives. Nor in any way does it suggest that they are not totally free to defend themselves against attack and indeed where they are threatened to attack the enemy first. That does not require them to hold back in any way at all.

This aggression started on the Argentine side. Since then they have continuously reinforced the islands which they are required to leave by Resolution 502.

I quite understand the strong *feelings in the House, which* I share, about the sinking of the General Belgrano, but it did threaten the security and safety of our men and ships and it would not have been possible in that situation for us to ask our forces to hold back in defending themselves.

Mr Allen McKay (Penistone, Lab): Can he assure the House and many people outside that political control does not slow down any defensive action which the fleet may take? (Conservative cheers).

Mr Nott: I can give him that total assurance. There is nothing at all in any directive we have given which can in any way hazard our forces in the difficult task which confronts them.

Sir Patrick Wall (Haltemprice, C): Is not the loss of *HMS* Sheffield a clear indication that we have reached the missile age?

The only really effective defence against sea-skimming missiles is Sea Wolf. Will he press ahead with the light-weight Sea Wolf and see that it is installed in most of our ships?

Mr Nott: I share his concern about the development of missiles. We have made a major priority in our programme the radar tracker for the light-weight Sea Wolf.

MPs want garrison retained

BELIZE

Mr Cranley Onslow, Minister of Slater for Forein and Commonwealth Affairs, was several times criticized by Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, for refusing to say specifically that there would be no question of withdrawing British forces protecting Belize *until* it was clear that there was no current military threat from Guatamala. Mr Onslow was also pressed for an answer from the Conservaive backbenches.

The first time Mr Healey sought the assurance during questions on foreign and commonwealth affairs, Mr Onslow replied: The present heightened tension in the hemisphere because of the Falklands crisis will be carefully considered by the British Government in any decision on the presence of the garrison.

Mr Healey: That is totally unsatisfactory. I asked a specific question. Refusal to answer or an attempt to evade the question will have the most damaging consequences for stability in the area.

Will he give an assurance that the Government will not withdraw the forces presently committed to the defence of Belize until everyone is satisfied that there is no further threat from the Government of Guatemala?

Mr Onslow, amid interruptions, repeated an answer he gave earlier to Mr Robert Atkins (Preston, North, C) that no date had been set for withdrawal.

He added: The factors Mr Healey mentions are obviously *most* relevant to any decision we shall take.

Sir Frederic Bennett (Torbay, C): It is relevant in the context of events in the Falklands that immediately agter the invasion there Guatemala stepped up its very articulate demands for gaining Belize.

I ask not so much if Mr Onslow is prepared to give a date or not but that, if British troops do stay there, there will be no lack of universal acceptance by the House of the full efforts and determination to make sure that they do not get let down at the last moment.

Mr Onslow: We have no intention to let Belize down and we are watching closely what is being said by *the new regime in* Guatemala.

Mr Healey: I speak for many in both sides of the House. Many of us feel the Falklands crisis arose because the Government gave a false signal to the Argentine Government. Unless Mr Onslow is able to give a specific answer to my *specific question he is in* danger of giving another false signal, so I appeal to him again to answer.

There was laughter when Mr Nichoas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) called out: close that brief.

Mr Onslow: Who closed his Red folder, replied: We have no intention of giving *false signals* even to those who wish to see them.

Mr Patrick Cormack: (South West, Staffordshire, C): The only answer the house needs is a simply one. The word is "Yes." (Cheers)

Mr Onslow: I am well aware of the mood of the House. I do not know why the House does not understand me. (Some laughter and interruptions.)

Earlier, Mr Robert Atkins had said: Now more than ever the threat to Belize from Guatemala should be taken into full consideration. The British forces *in Belize* cost a mere £4.4m. They are wanted by the Belize *authorities to protect their* interests. This should be pursued with vigour.

Will he give an assurance that they will stay as long as necessary?

Mr Onslow: The British garrison remains in Belize. No decision has been taken on a date for its withdrawal.

We hope the new government in Guatemala will in due course open discussions with Belize on the dispute to try to get a



Onslow: No date set for withdrawal.

peaceful solution. But so far the new government has shown no disposition to do so.

There are no clear indications as to how the new junta will approach the territorial dispute with Belize.

In a later exchange, Sir Bernard Braine (South East Essex, C) said: While agreeing that there should be a tightening of controls, if not a ban, on the export of arms to authoritarian regimes, particularly those with threatened neighbours, will the minister give the House the assurance *it* requires, that *if* a small democracy like Belize is *threatened by such a country we* shall stand by them?

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. He will have heard the comprehensive answer already given. (Laughter and protests).

☐ *Later* during exchanges on the Falkland Islands, Mr Healey asked the Foreign Secretary: May I ask a question which many of us found unsatisfactorily answered by Mr Onslow earlier. He was asked by MPs on both sides to give a firm assurance the British forces now committed to *the defence of Belize will not* be withdrawn until the threat from outside is seen to be removed.

If he could give us that assurance now, it would do much to allay fears that our behaviour may be interpreted by the Government of Guatemala in the same way as our behaviour *before Argentina* invaded the Falkland Island.

Mr Francis Pym replied: As to Belize I simply say that we have no plans at present, of course, to withdraw our forces. He can be absolutely assured that the countries he has in mind in relation to *neighbouring states* are prime considerations in HM Government's mind in considering what we do about our forces there.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30). Questions: Agriculture; Prime Minister. Debate on economic and employment prospects in Wales. Lords (3): Epsom and Walton Downs Regulations Bill, second reading. Administration of Justice Bill, report, second day. Debate on state aid to agriculture.

Chances cannot be taken

HOUSE OF LORDS

After Viscount Trenchard, Minister of Sate for Defence Procurement, had repeated Mr Nott's statement on HMS Sheffield, Lord Peart, for the Opposition, said with this escalation, the conflict had entered a new and *more serious* phase. More urgent steps to achieve first a ceasefire and, second, a diplomatic settlement must be taken.

Will he confirm (he said) that the use of minimum force remains the firm policy of the Government and that we adhere to the terms of Relolution 502 in every particular?

Lord *Mayhew* (L) *said* admiration for the Navy was undiminished. If the Sheffield had been equipped with the stretched version of Sea Dart with the new radar tracker, would she have suffered this attack? Why was she not so equipped?

Was the Exocet fired from a high level by *the Mirage* and not a low level, which might perhaps explain the failure to intercept the missile?

Would he confirm that the policy of minimum force remains absolutely and that no attacks will be authorized in Argentine waters or on the Argentine mainland?

Viscount Trenchard: Lord Peart's description of the conflict entering into a new and dangerous phase is not the complete picture. Mr Nott has never underestimated what a formidable task lay in front of the task force.

When an aggressor has already committed aggression, it is not easy to put matters right by the military route. There will, of course, be no diminution of our efforts down the route.

We have given an assurance that we will continue to use the minimum force necessary but we have also said that our first duty must be in the face of Argentine aggression to protect our own task force which is engaged on objectives which peers have supported.

The ships of the task force are equipped with complementary anti-aircraft weapon *systems*, including, importantly, Sea Wolf and Sea Dart on different ships.

It is believed atthis stage — and reports are restricted at the moment — that the reconnaisance Neptune aircraft sighted early in the day from the Argentine must have given the Etendard aircraft, not the *Mirages*, more or less the position of the task force.

Because the attack was a low and not a high level one use of the Sea Dart system, the range of the air launched Exocet missiles being in excess of 35 miles.

We believe that the Argentines only have five of these aircraft capable of delivaring the *Exocet* air-launched missile.

Lord Kennet (SDP): Would we be right that the number of dead on both sides is approaching one quarter of the number of Falkland Islanders and that the number of fighting men down there whose lives are at risk is about ten *times the number of* Falkland Islanders?

Viscount Tranchard: Aggressors often start with relatively small aggressions. History shows that *if* aggressions are not resisted they are likely to continue, both there and in other parts of the world.

The number of Falkland Islanders is relatively small, but they do not want to be occupied by a foreign power. The number is of small relevance in relation to the resistance of aggression.

The Bishop of Norwich (the Rt Rev Maurice Wood): There is strong support for all that the Government is *seeking to do to* maintain justice and to work for peace in this area, and the principles in which we are engaged and our role concerning the position of aggression.

Viscount Trenchard: The House will have noted the sentiments expressed from his benches, including those upheld by *him*, and the importance of the two principles which were upheld.

Lord Renton (C): There is a danger that a temporary ceasefire would enable the Argentines to repair runways and redouble their forces to their advantage.

Viscount Trenchard: Any cease-*fire at the current* time with the Argentines still in occupation and without a guarantee that they will remove their forces would amount to game, set and match to the Argentine.

Lord Chalfont (Ind): Will he assure us that there will not be too obsessive a concern with this *principle of minimum* force if we are at war with Argentine, whether declared or otherwise?

It is time some of the more ime-honoured principles of military engagements should come into operation. The principle of minimum force is more appropriate to internal policing than foreign policy. This one military *reverse, tragic as it may be,* should not result in a failure of national will.

Viscount *Trenchard:* There can be no doubt that in recent days there has been a sustained offensive and it has been clear from the movement of forces that Aargentine commanders *have been* under orders to attack our task force in every appropriate way. I take his point in relation to the balance necessary in the question of using minimum force.

The guidance and rules of engagement which the commander has had really do allow *the balance* to be struck. Taking account of the massive power and range of modern weaponry, chances cannot be taken. I take his last point in its entirety.

☐ There might be a review of British relationships with some countries when the Falkland Island conflict is over, *Mr* Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said during questions on the Government's relationships with dictatorships.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab): His conversation against dictatorship in Argentina was a bit late and it might be better if the Foreign Office did actually hold a review, when it is all over, of our relationships, particularly in relation to selling arms to those dictatorships around the world, and particularly in Latin America because the issue now has obviously changed

Demands for cut in surcharge

FINANCE BILL

A cut in national insurance surgharge from 3½ per cent to 2½ per cent was far from impressive, *Mr Peter Shore, chief* Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar), said in moving an amendment on the last day of the Finance Bill committee stage on the floor of the House.

The amendment, which was considered with two related amendments, sought to substitute 1½ per cent for the reduction to 2½ per cent provided for in the Bill.

Mr Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford, C) said the Treasury should consider doing away with the national insurance surcharge, and failing this remodel the whole tax. He would be dismayed if the surcharge went into the next Parliament and feared it would become permanent. It was a payroll tax and a bad tax and should be destroyed by the end of this Parliament.

If it could not be abolished, it should be re-cast to help employers to take on labour, by basing it — like income tax — on a lower level, a middle level and a higher level.

Mr Richard *Wainwright* (Colne Valley, L) referring to two Liberal/SDP amendments, said that this tax should be abolished, but with temporary clawback to remain, with nationalised industries for one year and central and local government for perhaps two years.

The provision should be repealed so that employers considering taking on additional people, especially young people, at the present time, would knew that threat of being taxed on providing jobs would have wholly disappeared.

New rules on tape recording in Police Bill

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

New rules covering tape recording of police interviews and wider powers to stop and search will be included in a Police Bill being prepared by the Government for introduction in the Autumn.

For the first time since the police were formed, the Bill is expected to introduce codes governing every aspect of the relationship between the police and people who might come into contact with them in a criminal matter

Greater independent oversight of the handling of complaints against the police will be an important proposal in the Bill. But there is likely to be no provision to give statutory backing to consultations between police and the community, as Lord Scarman wants.

His plea last weekend for his recommendations, made in the report on the Brixton riots, to be introduced as a package is unlikely to be heeded.

Ministers are to decide on the mix of proposals in the Bill this month so they can be drawn up for inclusion in the Queen's Speech in the autumn.

The Bill will broadly endorse the main thrust of proposals 18 months ago by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, which was the first comprehensive review of its kind for a century.

The Government has accepted the principle of tape recording evidence given to the police during interviews, but has been waiting to see the outcome of a limited experiment in Scotland, which has now been extended to Glasgow and Aberdeen.

What is in the Bill will depend upon experience there. Ministers say there is so far no general indication that the principle of tape recording of police questioning is proving impracticable. The royal commission recommended its gradual introduction, to be used in indictable cases for the making and reading back of the summary of interview of a written statement.

The Bill is expected to go along with the commission's recommendations that powers to stop and search persons on reasonable suspicion of being in possession of stolen goods or prohibited articles like firarms or drugs should be available throughout England and Wales. Searching of vehicles would be on the same footing.

The commission also recommended that the stopping of a person or vehicle should always be recorded with reasons given for the action and copies available for the person stopped. The principle is likely to be adopted in the Bill.

One curious gap in the present law is that there is no provision for police to obtain a warrant to search a house for the body of a murder victim. The Bill will make one.

Wider powers for the police will be balanced in the Bill by safeguards to protect suspects in detention and under interrogation. The basis of the Bill will be that there should be no duty on a suspect to answer questions and no modifcation of the right of silence.

Judges' Rules and the present administrative directions to the police will be replaced by legislation. Ministers are considering how far to go in excluding evidence obtained in breach of the new code of practice for regulating interviews, which would replace Judges' Rules. Ministers think an exclusionary rule should be kept.

The second part of the Bill is likely to contain proposals for an independent assessor to be appointed as an added check on the the investigation of complaints against the police. Home Office thinking is that there is not enough public concern to warrant a completely independent investigation system, but will take into account the views of the Home Affairs Select Committee, which finished taking evidence on the subject yesterday and plans to report at about the end of the month.

If, as expected, and assessor is recommended, deputies appointed in the provinces could help to provide closer liaison with local police Authorities and the Inspectorate of Constabulary to allow greater oversight of police work.

The most likely candidate for the job of assessor would be Sir Cyril Phillips, who chaired the Royal Commission and is now chairman of the Police Complaints Board.

Lawyers press for change on judges

By Frances Gibb

The Law Society is pressing the Government to remove the present block on circuit judges who were originally solicitors being appointed to sit as High Court judges. At present only former barristers can be appointed.

It is intending to put down an amendment to the Administration of Justice Bill which shortly starts its passage through the Cmmons; the second time in the past 18 months that the society has tried to change the law on this point.

Mr Graham Lee, secretary, professional and public relations at the Law Society, said: "We are not saying solicitors should be High Court judges. We are saying that circuit judges should be entitled to be High Court judges, whether they have been solicitors or not.

"Once someone is appointed a circuit judge, be or she is technically neither a barrrister or solicitor, so why make the distinction?"

Mr David Edwards, another official at the Law Society, said it was illogical that circuit judges could be appointed to sit as High Court judges, if they were good enough, but not if they had been solicitors.

The Law Society's last attempt to change the law was during the passage of the Supreme Court Bill through the Lords. The amendment was opposed by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone.

An official from the Solicitor General's office indicated yesterday that the Government's position remained unchanged, and therefore the Law Society will depend for the sucess of its amendment on the degree of back-bench support it can muster.

Opposing the amendment proposed to the Supreme Court Bill, in March 1981, Lord Hailsham said practice in the High Court, depended on knowledge of the complex High Court practice. "I cannot see the smallest possibility of appointing to the High Court bench anybody who had not got, not 10, but probably more like 20 or 25, years experience of High Court practice, both pleading and advocacy, and in the present situation that means members of the Bar."

'If a solicitor felt his role was in advocacy he should follow the path taken by Lord Widgery, the former Lord Chief Justice, and change over to the Bar, he said.

Police in Toxteth riot case cleared

From Arthur Osman
Mold

Two Merseyside police officers will be back on duty today after being cleared yesterday of the manslaughter of a partially disabled man during last summer's Toxteth riots.

A jury at Mold Crown Court found Sergeant Keith Wilkinson, aged 34, of Buttermere Close, Maghull, not guilty on the direction of the judge before any defence evidence was called. Constable James Keenan, aged 30, of Grasmere Avenue, Prescot, was found not guilty on an unanimous verdict. It was the ninth day of the trial.

In a statement read by Mr Kevin Dooley, a Liverpool solicitor, after they had left the court, both officers expressed their condolences to the dead man's family "and their relief that they have been vindicated by the unanimous verdict of the jury of any criminal responsibility". They said they would "now like to return to the privacy of their families and are looking forward to returning to their normal duties".



Sergeant Keith Wilkinson (left) and Police Constable James Keenan leaving Mold Crown court yesterday after they had been cleared of the manslaughter of Mr David Moore.

Mr David Moore, aged 23, of Wavertree, Liverpool, a partially disabled man was hit by a police van driven by Constable Keenan. The police support unit in the vehicle was commanded by Sergeant Wilkinson.

Solicitors for the dead man's family said later that they would be making a civil claim for damages against the police.

The court had been told that the van had been driven over wasteland in Toxteth on a night of violence to disperse rioters throwing petrol bombs and missiles at a group of unprotected police officers.

After two days of submissions by Mr George Carman, QCfor Constable Keenan and Mr John Hazan, QC for Sergeant Wilkinson, that the case should be withdrawn from the jury, the judge ruled yesterday that there was no evidence against Sergeant Wilkinson that he had committed the offence. The judge said the sergeant had not controlled or participated in the driving.

Before the jury was directed to return a not guilty verdict against the sergeant, the judge said he had not taken the same course in Constable Keenan's case because the weight of evidence relating to him was a matter for the jury and not himself. There had been conflict between witnesses.

The judge told them: "If at any stage you desire to say that the defendant Keenan is not guilty you are entitled to say so. Manslaughter cannot be proved unless Keenan showed such disregard for life and safety as to amount to criminal conduct.

"This requires proof of a very high degree of negligence going beyond carelessness and dangerous driving".

In the case of a police officer beginning his manoeuvre for the prevention of crime he had a measure of statutory protection; dispersing rioters carried an element of risk. The crown had to show that Constable Keenan went outside a lawful operation.

The jury was entitled to look at all circumstances and the judge continued: "May David Moore have been a rioter or associated with rioters? If so what is the duty of care of a driver carrying out lawful manoeuvre of dispersing rioters? Has the Crown proved that Keenan went beyond the protection of the Act, that what he did was unreasonable and not necessary in the prevention of crime?"

After a 30 minutes adjournment the jury returned with a not guilty verdict and judge and counsel paid tribute to the "enormous thoroughness" of the investigation. Police interviewed 1,400 people including 1,200 police officers and 231 officers spent six weeks in Liverpool on, that the judge called, a difficuclt and important case.

Cheap TV licences may break rules

By Kenneth Gosling

Local authorities operating cheap television licence schemes for pensioners were given a warning yesterday that they could be flouting the regulations governing that concession, which is enjoyed by an estimated 480,000 pensioners.

The warning comes in the wake of a letter sent last week to 8,000 South Tyneside pensioners who bought 5p television licences, through a misinterpretation of the law by the local borough council. The National Television Licence Records Office, which sent the letter, said yesterday: "As a result of this we will be looking at other authorities".

A spokesman said: "The original idea was to cover institutionalized accommodation. On South Tyneside, the people who benefited were not living in accommodation specially provided for old people."

It was also being claimed yesterday that some local election candidates were promising concessionary licences without fully understanding the regulations.

It was in 1969 that Mr John Stonehouse, the postmaster-general, introduced a dual system for licensing television sets used by old people. If they had their own private set in a room in an old people's home or in housing provided by a local authority under the supervision of an area warden, the fee was only 5p, then one shilling. (In 1969 a colour licence cost £11).

Subsequent attempts by some authorities to extend the scheme have run into trouble. The records office said some tried to evade the regulations by appointing young people to visit old people in their homes four times a year. They regarded that as qualifying them as living in "sheltered" accommodation, which it did not.

The BBC estimates a revenue loss to them on South Tyneside of £600,000.

Under the Wireless Telegraphy (Broadcasting Licence Charges and Exemption) Regulations, 1970, The definition of an old people's home includes "a group of dwellings provided under Part V of the Housing Act 1957, specially for retired persons of pensionable age in association with other accommodation or facilities intended for the common use of all the occupants".

New GLC post to help women

The Greater London Council is seeking applicants for the newly-created £17,000-a-year post of women's opportunities adviser (David Walker writes). It is beleived to be the first such job offered by any employer.

The job is the latest of a number of senior and well-paid posts announced by the Labour administration. The official will be expected to take "significant new initiatives aimed at eradicating unfair discrimination in employment".

At the annual meeting of the Labour group of councillors last month it was decided to create a womans's committee, which would review GLC jobs to find out if enough women were employed at various grades. Its chairman or "chair", in GLC parlance, is to be Miss Valerie Wise, a noted left winger.

'Sun' journalists get 9.8pc rise

Journalists at *The Sun* who had been in mandatory union meetings for the past week, yesterday returned to normal working after agreeing a pay and conditions package worth 9.8 per cent. The deal includes a 5 per cent increase in salaries from April 1, a £500 productivity payment and a payment of £310 plus £13 as partial consolidation of a media allowance. There are improvements to holiday and other benefits. The new minimum salary is increased to £14,600, according to the National Union of Journalists.

Railway death

Franck Piron, aged 14, a French schoolboy was killed by a train at Wimbledon, south London, when he tried to walk home along a railway line, thinking he had missed the last train. An inquest at Westminster yesterday recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Bishop's miles

The Bishop of Hereford, the Right Rev John Eastaugh, aged 62, set off yesterday on a 200-mile pilgrimage on foot through his diocese to mark the 700th anniversary of the death of St Thomas Cantilupe.

Teachers' 6 pc

Teachers in Scotland were yesterday awarded a 6 per cent increase, backdated to April, by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.



BMA backs call to reduce lead pollution

By Our Medical Correspondent

A report on lead pollution which says it is scientifically impossible to set a level at which lead is harmful to individuals was unanimously approved by the council of the British Medical Association (BMA) yesterday.

The report, by the BMA's science and education board, will lend considerable support to the campaign to reduce lead in petrol when it is submitted to the Royal Commission of Environmental Pollution.

The BMA now accepts that studies are showing mental impairement in children occurring at lead levels lower than previously thought harmful and emphasizes that these reports should not be ignored.

The new report says that as there is a high degree of individual susceptibility to damage by lead there is a continuum of harm.

The BMA recommends that lead in the environment should be reduced and that in particular urgent measures should be taken to reduce the amount from sources which might affect women of reproductive age, infants and children.

The scientific board has quoted in the report from the preliminary findings of an experiment in Turin, commissioned by the EEC and a United States Government agency. By using lead with a distinctive isotope in petrol, it has been possible to show that a third of the blood lead level derives from petrol.

After the meeting a BMA spokesman said: "Lead is a biological poison. If the opportunity arises to reduce the concentration by a third the conclusion about what should be done should be obvious to everybody; particularly as it is an accumulative poison, which is only very slowly rid from the body.

"It has a half-life measured in a considerable number of years so that by the time we reach adult life it is already too late to excrete all the lead accumulated in childhood."

Hospital appeal

☐ The overcrowded and unsafe working conditions in which research is being carried out at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London has prompted the hospital to launch an urgent public appeal for money (Felicity Jones writes).

The patient-orientated research work, which includes investigation into the cause and treatment of childhood and adult cancers, baby deaths from premature delivery, diabetes and occupational lung diseases, has for some time been at risk due to the severe shortage of space.

Doctors claim that they are working in appalling conditions in corridors, huts and converted lavatories, which threaten the work with the 25,000 patients whom they see each year.

The hospital has raised already the £3m from its trustees and industry needed to house the 18 clinical departments. But more money is needed to convert and equip the centre, £500,000 of which it hopes to raise immediately from the present appeal.

Under threat is the research into the treatment of cancer patients with myeloblastic leukaemia. The department has boosted the potential survival rate of patients with this disease from 5 to 50 per cent.

Shared training

☐ A working party has recommended that some of the training of nurses and social workers who provide care for the mentally handicapped should be shared. It has not, as was hoped in some quarters, come out in favour of a single form of training.

The working party, composed of representatives from the three United Kingdom nursing councils and the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work, has agreed a plan of action intended to form the basis for cooperation and shared training. It is proposed that students for the registration as a nurse for mentally handicapped people (RNMS) and the Certificate in Social Service (CSS) would join together for theoretical and practical learning where the position of training centres made it feasible.

In *Cooperation in Training*, the working group says: "By learning together for part of their courses, students will cultivate the mutual respect and understanding necessary for closer cooperation between health and social services in promoting improved services for mentally handicapped people."

A completely new form of combined training, however, has been ruled out. The working group saw this as a threat to the identity of the two professions.

Legal win for Gilbert O'Sullivan

Gilbert O'Sullivan the pop singer won his case in the High Court yesterday for a fair share of the millions of pounds made by his records. He had been exploited by Mr Gordon Mills, his former manager, Mr Justice Mars-Jones said. He awarded Mr O'Sullivan copyright of his songs and the master tapes of his records, together with costs unofficially extimated at £100,000.

Between 1970 and 1978, five Gilbert O'Sullivan single and seven long-playing records grossed an estimated £14.5m, from which Mr O'Sullivan received only about £500,000 before tax.

The judge set aside agreements made between Mr O'Sullivan and Mr Mills and his company, Management Agency and Music Ltd, as they were "an unreasonable restraint of trade".

Changes in seats proposed

The Cardiff parliamentary constituency held by Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, will disappear if recommendations published by the Boundary Commission for Wales today are accepted.

The Cardiff seats including those held by Mr Callaghan and Mr George Thomas the Speaker of the House of Commons, along with Barry and Pontypridd, would be replaced by four new Cardiff seats and a county constituency covering the western part of South Glamorgan.

Embassy hearing

The owners of a building at Princes Gate, South Kensington, London, formerly occupied by the Iranian embassy were due to appear before magistrates yesterday because of thir refusal to repair the structure, but they did not attend and the hearing was adjourned until May 19 at Bow Street Magistrates Court.

Back in print

Machine room workers at the Eric Bemrose printing works, Liverpool, have resumed normal working, pending a meeting about their pay dispute on Monday. An unofficial strike by 168 men last week halted production of *The Sunday Telegraph* and *News of the World* magazines.

Benefit ruling

A teacher who voluntarily took advantage of an early retirement scheme was not entitled to unemployment benefit for the first six weeks after leaving his job, the Court of Appeal in London held yesterday. Permission to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

Law report, page 29

BR bargains

From May 17 British Rail is to run an all first-class overnight train in each direction between London and Scotland with single fares starting at £12 — one third of the ordinary first class single fare. This is to win back passengers lost to coach travel.

Inquiry sought

Mr William-Homeward, Labour MP for Kettering, yesterday called for an inquiry into the safety record at the British Steel Corporation plant at Corby, Northamptonshire, where three demolition workers have been killed in the last 15 months.

Funerals halted

Crematorium staff in Liverpool voted yesterday to join the strike by the city's gravediggers from May 17. They said they will honour funerals up to date, but are not taking new bookings.

Brian Harris

Luxury lavatory: People queueing outside Britain's first Automatic Public Toilet in Leicester Square, London, when it opened yesterday. The lavatory, for men and women, is open 24 hours a day and costs 10p to use. It is the first of three of similar design to be sited in the West End for a six-month experiment.

Falklands dominates voting today

By Richard Evans and David Walker

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Millions of voters in England and Scotland go to the polls today in council elections dominated by events 8,000 miles away in the South Atlantic.

Having totally overshadowed the political campaigning which has preceded the poll, the Falklands crisis looks set to play a significant role in deciding the political make-up of many of the 183 authorities where voting takes place.

Opinion polls have indicated a considerable strengthening in Conservative support, coinciding with the Falklands issue, but yesterday party managers were uncertain what effect the destruction of HMS Sheffield and a Sea Harrier would have on voters' intentions.

In London and the Home Counties in particular, Britain's dispute with Argentina appears to be uppermost in electors' mind, rather than local issues, and the outcome of the contests will be seen in some quarters as a public verdict on the Government's handling of the crisis.

In many authorities only a third of sitting members are up for election, but there are "all out" fights in London's 32 boroughs, nine Scottish regional councils and 10 metropolitan districts, including Manchester and Birmingham.

The Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance is fielding candidates in nearly all the 4,800 seats being contested and their participation had peomised, until international events intervened, to make those elections the most fascinating for decades. The alliance, fighting its first nationwide campaign, has suffered more from the lack of press attention given to the elections than its established political opponents, and in several areas sanguine predictions by SDP activists have been whittled down to hopes of gaining a "few seats".

The Conservatives, defending gains made four years ago at a time of acute Labour unpopularity, have fought a deliberately low-key campaign and had feared heavy losses until the recent revival in their fortunes. They are hoping their concerted attack on "spendthrift" Labour authorities combined with the patriotic fervour will be to their advantage.

Mr Michail Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, dealt a final campaign blow yesterday when, summing up his party's message, he said: "Can you afford not to vote Conservative?"

In normal circumstances Labour would be looking to take advantage of the customary mid-term slump in support for a Conservative government and regain control in authorities lost last time, as well as making gains elsewhere. The party is likely to do better in the north of England and Scotland, where the effects of unemployment have been particularly harsh.

Today's contests involve five million voters in London, nearly four million in Scotland and several million more in a mixture of districts scattered throughout England.

Manchester looks certain to remain in Labour hands but Tory officials in the West Midlands said yesterday that its law and order campaing in Birmingham should, together with the Falkalands factor, allow Conservatives to take control of the city.

☐ Voters in Wandsworth, south-west London, go to the polls with their rates uncollected, their bins only partly emptied and unable to contact the town hall to complain because its telephone operators are on strike.

A dispute between the Conservative-controlled council and refuse collection workers which began two weeks ago over the council's intention to invite tenders from private firms for refuse collection, has widened into what the National and Local Government Officers' Association yesterday called chaos. Mr Christopher Chope, the council leader, called the strike "a political act".

☐ Five Conservative members of the Greater London Council were yesterday nominated to succeed Sir Horace Cutler as leader of the party at County Hall in opposition to Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the Labour leader of the council. They are: Mr Richard Brew, the deputy Tory leader, and Mr Alan Greengross, the party's transport expert, Mr Peter Black, Mr Cyril Taylor and Mr Robert Vigars.

Correction

☐ The total of Scottish National Party candidates for Scottish regional councils, given as 1,309 on May 3 should have been 269.

Vatican replies to 'unity' report

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Corr

The Vatican has issued a long reply to the final report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, both praising and criticizing it and recommending that the process of doctrinal discussion between the two communions should be continued and widened to embrace moral issues.

The report, the result of 11 years of study by theologians from both traditions into the principal areas of disagreement, gave sufficient grounds for thinking that the exercise will be fruitful, the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith states in a document published today.

It identifies some "negative aspects" of the report, however, and claims that, from an official Roman Catholic point of view, some of its propositions are inadequate, ambiguous, or otherwise questionable. The congregation has subjected the report to a close and detailed analysis, and some of its observations are in a conservative spirit.

The report, nevertheless, marks a "singular event" in the history of the relations between the two communions, and constitutes "a notable effort towards reconciliation".

The congregation says that its comments are offered not as a final word, but as a contribution to the discussion within each church. The report, and the observations on it, is now being circulated to bishops' conference throughout the world for comment, and the Vatican's Secretariat for Christian Unity will coordinate the replies.

The most serious criticism is probably the congregation's treatment of the passages on papal privacy and infallibility, where it appears to find the common ground expressed in the report inadequate.

The international commission had suggested a way round the traditional Anglican objection to Roman Catholic teaching on the papacy, by arguing that it had evolved as a historical necessity to preserve the unity of the church.

The congregation confronts this with the words of the First Vatican Council that "the apostle Peter received immediately and directly from Jesus Christ Our Lord a true and proper primacy of jurisdiction," which is the source of the authority now possessed by St Peter's successor. The power of jurisdiction belonging to the Pope "is intrinsic to this office, not something which belongs to it for human reasons nor in order to respond to historical needs."

The congregation points out that so far the dialogue between the two churches has not looked at the issue of the ordination of women, recalling not only that in 1976 a Vatican declaration stated the it was not possible, but also that certain parts of the Anglican communion now had woman priests.

It also repeats the traditional Roman Catholic position that the church's official teaching, the *magisterium*, applies not only to fundamentals of doctrine but to all aspects of faith and morals. That appears to widen the future scope of unity talks.

A particular ambiguity to which the congregation draws attention is the report's use of the word "substantial" in describing the degree of agreement that had been reached. The word has a different meaning in everyday English from that found in theology, it states, and in the latter sense the congregation doubts that it is applicable. The final report "does not constitute a substantial and explicit agreement on some essential elements."

Dock union leaders call off strike

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Dock union leaders yesterday decided by a narrow majority to suspend the national port strike due to begin on Monday over the extension of the industry's unique job security system.

The Transport and General Workers' Docks and Waterways Committee voted to put off industrial action to allow time for testing the Government's intentions on bringing up to 80 ports into the National Dock Labour Scheme.

By an undisclosed, but small majority, the committee agreed to recommend to a national docks delegate conference tomorrow that the proposed strike involving 24,000 dock workers should be suspended while proposals are prepared for the Department of Employment.

Mr David Waddington, Employment Under-Secretary, said in a letter to the TGWU that the Government would give serious consideration to detailed proposals on the extension of the labour scheme to individual ports where employers and workers wanted it.

☐ Farm workers could rely on the full support of Britain's largest union, the Transport and General Workers, in future disputes with employers, Mr Mortyn Evans, the TGWU general secretary, said yesterday (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

At a press conference after the merger of the former National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers with the TGWU, Mr Evans made it clear that the localized nature of many agricultural disputes would not inhibit the union giving "considerable assistance" to members in difficulty.

Leading article, page 13

£15,120 for Antoinette's tender notes

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Documentation of the efforts of Count Hans Axel von Fersen to protect and rescue Queen Maria Antoinette form the hands of the revolutionaries was bought by the French Archives Nationales at Christie's yesterday for £15,120 (estimate £15,000-£20,000).

Fersen was the queen's most faithful ally and confidant; whether there was a closer relationship remains unresolved but the tender tone of this correspondence suggests it.

The documentation includes autograph letters from the queen to Fersen from the Tuileries written in 1791 and 1792, and transcripts of other letters, mostly in Fersen's hand, and many letters from Fersen to the Queen.

There is theoriginal bill for the coach, a Berline, in which the queen escaped to Barennes in June, 1791, made out to an assumed name, la Baronne de Korff.

The top price at Christie's sale of autograph letters, documents and manuscripts was secured by a Sherlock Holmes short story, *The Greek Interpreter*, at £15,660 (estimate £12,000-£15,000) to Quaritch.

An important political archive from the first decades of the Greek Republic (1820-60), comprising the personal papers of Pericles Argyropoulos and Konstantine Schines, some 1,600 pages, went to a London dealer for a Greek client at £12,420 (estimate £8,000-£10,000).

A delightful unpublished story written and illustrated by Edward Lear for Lady Susan Percy, starring Lear himself losing his hat on a windy day made £2,160 (estimate £1,200-£1,500) to John F. Fleming, the New York dealer.

BR review chairman is chosen

By John Winder

Sir David Serpell, a retired top civil servant and a present member of British Rail board is to head an independent committee to review British Rail's finances.

Mr David Howell, Seretary of State for Transport, announcing the review in the Commons, said that British Rail had agreed to relaese Sir David from his present duties to undertake the task from "the necessary position of total independence".

Sir David retired as Permanent Secretary to the Department of Environment in 1972. Before that he held a similar position at the Department of Transport.

Other members of the review committee will be Mr P. J. Butler, a senior partner of Peat, Marwick Mitchell and Co, who had already received a commission from Mr Howell on the 1982 rail budget; Mr Alfred Goldstein, a consulting engineer and Mr Leslie Bond, a director of the Rank Organisation.

The inquiry will "examine the finances of the railway and associated operations ... designed to secure improved financial results in an efficiently run railway in Great Britain over the next 20 years". Mr Howell wants a report in six months' time.

Uneasy anniversary

Year after Sands death Maze protests continue

From Craig Seton, Belfast

A year after Robert Sands died on the 66th day of his hunger strike in the Maze Prison H-blocks in Northern Ireland, more than 200 republican prisoners are still protesting over the "five demands" that led to a monumental battle of wills between Mrs Thatcher's government and the republican movement, mainly the Provisional IRA.

Yesterday's first anniversary of Sand's death was marked, uncharacteristically, by a call in the *Republican Irish News* by the Belfast brigade of the IRA to the city's youth not to be provoked into conflict with the security forces and a plea that there should be no rioting.

The night before, only three petrol bombs had been thrown in Catholic west Belfast and yesterday there was a small ceremony outside Sand's former home on the Twinbrook Estate.

A silent "black flag march" by republicans was also planned to pass the spot where an estimated 50,000 people gathered a year ago to mark the death of Sands, who had become a Westminster MP, the first of 10 republican hunger strikers to die before the fast collapsed last October.

According to the Northern Ireland Office, 220 republican prisoners are still protesting over the conditions which the Government has always considered would grant them political status, but now they are merely refusing to do prison work. The so-called blanket and dirty protests that brought the hunger strike into world headlines over several months, are a thing of the past.

The republican movement says that 260 to 270 are still protesting about four of the five demands which were never granted: free association, no prison work, segregation from other prisoners and specific demands about the receipt of parcels from families and full visits from outside.

The hunger strike which initially became a potent weapon in the hands of the Provisional IRA led to only one of the demands being granted; the right of prisoners to wear their own clothes.

Eleven members of the security forces have died this year, the last this week when an RUC constable was shot dead and an unarmed woman constable seriously injured in Londonderry.

The police and the Army prepared last night to cope with any rioting or more serious incidents which could have been expected on the anniversary of Sands's death.

Longer airport inquiry

By Hugh Clayton
Environment correspondent

The Government announced yesterday that the final stage of the public inquiry into the siting of London's third airport will not start until next year. It was the first official statement of the expected length of the proceedings since they began six months ago, and exceeded estimates by observers that the sessions would be finished by Christmas.

The Department of the Environment announced yesterday that examination of the case for building a fifth terminal at Heathrow airport would probably begin in mid-January at a hotel overlooking the runways. It is unlikely that Mr Graham Eyre QC, the inquiry inspector, will make a recommendation to ministers before the next general election campaign is in full swing.

Most of this year will be taken up by the rest of the British Airports Authority's case for turning Stansted airport in Essex into the third airport. But Mr Eyre is also to consider the case for building the airport at Maplin sands.

The inquiry will also be halted for a few days to make room for a short separate inquiry into the fate of a medieval moat near the present Stansted runway.

Farmers fear a return to the wilderness

From John Young
Agriculture Correspondent
Stoke St Gregory



"Not so long ago a farmer could be evicted for not doing his job properly", Mr Dick House (right) recalls. "Now it seems they want to penalize us for doing it too well.

"We are being asked to become bad farmers", he claims, gesturing towards the flat pasture on which his family have kept cattle for generations. "If they have their way, I can see this area reverting within five years to what it used to be, nothing but rushes."

"They" in this case are the Nature Conservancy Council which recently announced its intention to designate 2,500 acres of West Sedgemoor, part of the so called Somerset Levels, as a site of special scientific interest (SSSI).

It was a bold step and one which will provide a searching test of whether the Wildlife and Countryside Act, derided by conservationists as too feeble and by farmers as impracticable, can be made to work.

The farmers affected are bewildered and resentful. Mr Bert Betty, who was the first farmer to drain land on West Sedgemoor, at the suggestion of the Ministry of Agriculture, cannot believe that the policy is being reversed.

Of the 134 acres which he farms, 118 lie within the proposed SSSI. If he is forced to refrain from what the council calls "damaging operations" such as drainage, ploughing, spreading manure and the use of chemicals, he thinks the farm will fall in value by half and that it will be hard to find a buyer.

The council maintains that the low lying peat moor is not only an important bird sanctuary but also a refuge for increasingly rare plants and insects, which would be threatened by conversion to grassland or, worse still, to arable fields.

The farmers claim that only small areas of the moor are important in terms of wildlife and that the council's proposals constitute "overkill".

Mr Brian Rowe (left), chairman of the Somerset and South Avon branch of the National Farmers' Union, claims that at least one farmer has become seriously ill from worry. He is pressing for a postponement of the scheme and for the deadline for objections to be extended beyond the end of next month.

The Government is not due until next winter to publish its guidelines for compensation to farmers who are not allowed to make the most economical use of their land, he says. He also wants the council to clarify exactly what it means when it says the status quo will not be affected by its proposals, and assurances that farmers will not be forced to abandon existing drainage schemes.

Huntsmen confident council ban will fail

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Supporters of hunting believe it will be impossible for South Glamorgan Coucil to enforce a ban on foxhounds, even if its members vote for one today. Mr Anthony Martyn, master of the Glamorgan Hunt and chairman of the local action committee of the British Field Sports Society, has taken legal advice about the proposed ban.

The motion to be proposed by a Labour member of the council in Cardiff is one of many similar attempts to ban the hunting of prey with hounds on rural land owned by councils. Similar motions have succeeced in East Sussex and Berkshire and failed in Leicestershire and the Waverley District in Surrey.

South Glamorgan is one of many councils where all rural land owned by the authority is devided into rented farms on which sporting rights are assigned to tenants. The only way of enforcing a vote for a ban is to wait until a tenancy ends and write an agreement for the new tenant which reserves sporting rights to the council as landlord.

The Cardiff vote will mark the start of the most concerted campaign yet by opponents of hunting to secure bans on more than 400,000 acres of council-owned land in Britain. Similar motions are to be put his month before at least folur English county councils and supporters of hunting in Humberside plan to demonstrate when the council there votes on a ban next week.

The motion at Humberside is to be worded in a way which will put pressure on tenants who farm the council's 9,000 acres to enforce a ban. South Glamorgan owns about 3,000 acres, of which about 500 are hunted by the Glamiorgan foxhounds and the South Wales Bassets.

☐ The Co-operative Wholesale Society yesterday defended its decision to ban hunting on its 14 farms and estates around Britain, covering 38,000 acres, the largest private holding in farmland in the country (Derek Harris, Commercial Editor, writes).

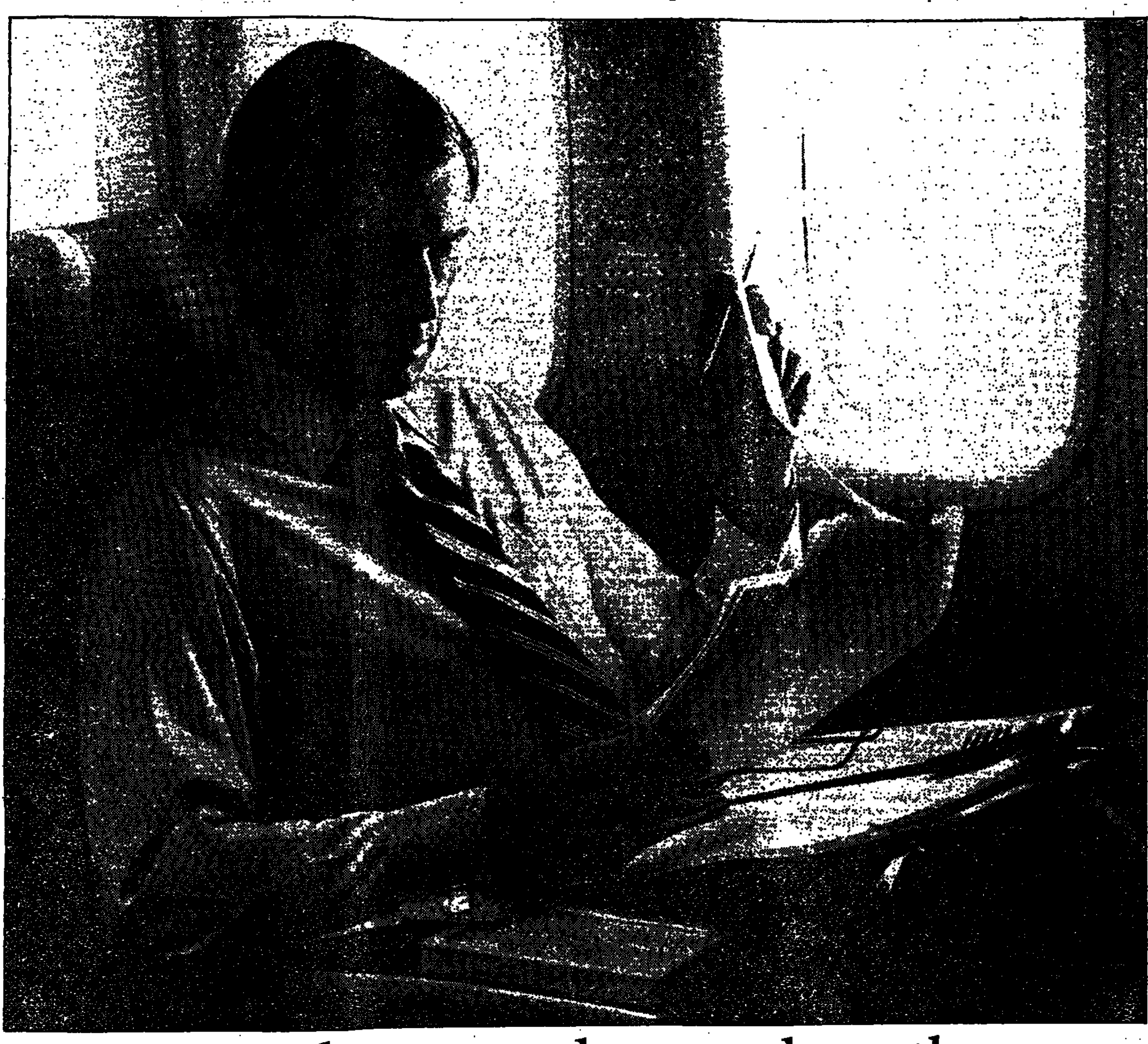
"there has been much unfair criticism, such as suggestions that the decision resulted from extreme left-wing agitation", said Mr Dennis Landau, chief executive of the CWS. "It is nothing of the sort. The CWS board has simply acted democratically".

هكذا من الاصل

Vatican replies to 'unity' report

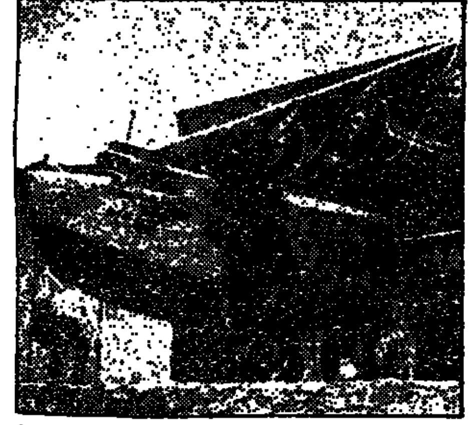
By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs ...

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...en confident ... will fail

Use of live rounds in Gaza defended

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, May 5

The toll of violent deaths in the occupied West Bank continues to mount. Four Arab teenagers were killed last night in a mysterious explosion in a gully neat Jenin, while a 14-year-old girl died today in a Jerusalem hospital after being shot in the head on Sunday, apparently by an Israeli civilian.

An army officer in the Jebilia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip fired live ammunition this morning to break up a demonstration. The military command said shots were fired at the rioters' legs to repel a mob attack on a small military position in the camp. The Israelis said two Arabs were injured.

Arab sources said six young men and a young woman were hurt.

The independent Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* claimed today that casualty figures in demonstrations were higher in the past month and a half than in the previous 15 years of Israeli occupation — nine Arabs and two Israelis killed and 30 soldiers, 19 Arabs, 16 Israeli civilians and four foreigners injired. Today's toll is not included.

In Jerusalem today, Labour Party deputies criticised *Lieutenant General Rafael* Eitan, the chief of staff for the use of live ammunition against demonstrators. He replied that this was done *only* as a *last resort* after warning shots, tear gas and rubber bullets failed.

Critics said it was curious that bullets aimed at people's legs should have killed them. They said civil disobedience had escalated since the Israelis installed a civil administration on November 1 to replace the military. The general claimed the unrest was provoked by agents from abroad on orders from the PLO in Beirut and Damascus.

Military sources said the cause of the blast that killed four Arabs in Yabad, near Jenin was being investigated. Arab villagers said the area had been a Jordanian mine field. Israeli Army investigators searched the homes of the victims and summoned families for interrogation.

Tension rose in Nablus where Israeli troops set up a position on the roof of a soap factory owned by the prominent Toukan family. Local residents said they counted 500 sandbags raised to the roof.

Mr Sharon, the Defence Minister, visited the position today and worried Arabs suspect it is a nucleus of an Israeli settlement. They said they were reminded of a case in Hebron where troops set up a position on the roof of a building. The building was later turned over to Jewish militants for settlement.

A member of Mr Sharon's staff scoffed at the idea.



Prisoners of conscience

Indonesia: Alex Irwan

By Caroline Moorehead

A third-year sociology student at the University of Indonesia is in detention in Jarkarta in connexion with a lecture banned by the authorities last September.

Mr Alex Irwan, aged 21, was a member of the student senate of the Social Sciences Faculty which invited the well-known Indonesian writer Pramoedya Ananta Toer (a former political prisoner for 14 years) to give a talk. As the meeting was about to take place, a formal notice demanded that it be cancelled. The student senate refused.

Mr Irwan, together with three other students, was subsequently expelled from the university. During October 1981 the four were twice taken into detention and interrogated. The university Rector's expulsion order had stated that he considered that their activities in "arranging the distorted discussion" had "jeopardized his authority and breached established campus discipline".

The Jakarta military command decided nonetheless to release them "unconditionally after they . . . proved that their conduct did not obstruct the state constitution and ideology". Neither Mr Irwan, nor his three student friends were, however, reinstated

In December he was again arrested. By this time Mr Joesoef Ishak, publisher of Pramoedya's first two novels, written while he was a political prisoner on Buru Island, was also in detention — in connexion with the same banned student meeting. But although Mr Ishak has since been released, Mr Irwan and a second student, Mr Raffendi Djamin, rearrested at the same time, have not been.

Head of nuclear power project killed by ETA

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, May 5

In its first act of direct, violent confrontation with the Basque home-rule Government, the ETA secessionist movement today murdered the chief engineer of a *nuclear power plant* under construction in Bilbao, just as they killed his predecessor less than 16 months ago.

The attack occurred on the morning when representatives of the home-rule Government were to sign documents in the regional capital, Vitoria, transferring responsibility for the operation of the nuclear plant from the privately owned Iberduero Power Company to the regional authorities.

The timing of the attack *made it clear that the* ETA would continue its campaign against the nuclear installation even after the project received political support from elected Basque officials

Four gunmen in a parked car shot dead the engineer, Señor Angel Pascual Mugica as he was driving to work in Bilbao. His 18-year-old son, Inigo, a student, who was with him in the car, was slightly injured by flying glass.

Two bodyguards, apparently travelling in another car, fired at the terrorists as they made their escape. The car they used in the attack and for their escape, which was stolen earlier this morning, was found soon afterwards in another part of the city.

The murder was part of an increase in ETA violence in support of a demand for the removal of all Madrid controlled forces of public order from the Basque country by Friday week. It prompted Señor Leopolo Galva Sotelo, the Prime Minister to call an *emergency meeting in Madrid* today with key members of his cabinet.

Señor Pascual Mugica, the project manager of the Lemoniz nuclear station near Bilbao and an employee of the Iberduero Power Company for the past 25 years, was the father of four children.

He had taken over the functions of chief engineer at the nearly completed plant last month, after more than a year in which the construction work was virtually *halted as a result of the fatal* shooting of his predecessor, Señor Jose Maria Ryan, by the ETA on January 29, 1981.

Terrorist opposition to the Lemoniz plant was also expressed over the past few years in the bombing of scores of transformer installations owned by the Iberduero company, mostly in the Basque region.

A communique issued by the Secretariat of State for Information after the ministers' meeting said: "The Government maintains its firm will to continue with the plan drawn up for the Lemoniz nuclear station, and so do the institutions of the Government of Euzkadi (the Basque country), which set up on this day, after the death of Señor Pascual *Mugica,* the *management* corporation for the nuclear power plant."

Peking awaits Bush visit with optimism

From David Bonavia, Peking, May 5

The impending visit to China by Mr George Bush, the American Vice-President, takes place at a time when a measure of cautious optimism has been apparant among American and Chinese officials over their relations.

Despite the serious problems associated with the quarrel between Peking and Washington over Taiwan, some of the tension was taken out of the air last month when China did not reduce the level of diplomatic *relations because o President* Reagan's sale to Taiwan of military spare parts estimated at $39m (£21m).

Cnina has continued to call American sales of arms to Taiwan a "time bomb" in relations with the United States. But it is extremely reluctant to reduce relations to charge d'affaires level as a mark of its displeasure. However, it is still not ruled out.

Chinese officials have time and again emphasized that, serious though the dispute over arms sales is, it remains *a problem of bilateral* relations which is capable of solution.

Mr Bush, a former United States envoy to Peking, failed in 1980 when he came on a special mission to explain the future Reagan Adminstration's stance over Taiwan, and was rather ignominously dismissed by the Peking

Since them, however, the White House seems to have become somewhat more aware of the strength of Chinese feelings on this matter, and has apparently shelved the idea of selling *certain advanced new military* aircraft to Taiwan.

Mr Bush's current mission is cosmetically arranged to avoid the impression that he is coming to Canossa, falling as it does after other visits he has been making in the Pacific region.

Even if he makes no substantial progress in his talks here, he may be able to persuade America's allies that the situation is well in hand. Japan and the Nato countries have been urging the Americans to remove this logjam in their relations with China, even though those countries could profit to *some extent if Sino-American* trade were affected.

So far this has not happened, and indeed China would be hard-pushed to feed its people without American grain sales.

The Chinese Government may be able to negotiate a little more flexibly since the recent big reshuffle, which has increased the manoeuvring room of Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, with regard to conservative elements in the Communist Party and Army who may be critical of the way the Taiwan issue has been handled.

Mr Zhao is, however, known as a tough and acerbic negotiator.

□ Mr Han Nianlong, China's vereran Deputy Foreign Minister, has been removed in the latest stage of the Government reshuffle aimed at trimming the country's sprawling bureaucracy (Reuter reports).

According to the New China news agency, Mr Han, who held the post since 1964, had been replaced a senior Deputy Foreign Minister by *Mr Wu Xueqian, until* now deputy director of the Communist Party's International Liaison Department.

Double voting charges in Indonesian election

From David Watts, Jakarta, May 5

The Government Golkar Party had a comfortable lead tonight as provisional results *from the Indonesian general* elections continued to come in from the archipelago and appeared to have won by a narrow margin in the capital.

The Jakarta victory is likely to be a controversial if not pyrrhic success, since it reverses the situation at the last election when the opposition Muslim United Development Party (PPP) won the capital and it runs against the indication of the large, enthusiastic crowds that have attended Muslim rallies.

The slim 200,000—vote margin for Golkar in an electorate of more than three million was made doubly controversial by PPP allegations of electoral malpractice by the Government. Nationally, Golkar had 53 per cent of the vote with 83 per cent of returns in by nightfall.

Early in the count the PPP accused the Government of electoral sleight of hand and said that they would not ratify the election results officially if there were significant disparities between their own and Government figures. The Government electoral office said it could not comment unless there *was an official* complaint.

Mr Nuddin Lubis, deputy chairman of the PPP, said that even before voting began yesterday thousands of voters had been issued more than one polling form, one of which each elector had to present before voting. He said that thousands of Golkar supporters in Medan and Jakarta had been issued two sets of the forms enabling them to vote twice

There are two *types of* electoral form—one for those voting in their own area of residence, and a second form for voters who happen to be travelling a spolling takes place. Some Government supporters, he said, had voted on both forms, something which would not be apparent to PPP observers watching the actual voting.

Thousands of PPP voters, meanwhile, had been deprived of the forms for them to go to the polls. Mr Lubis said The PPP had had complaints not only from Jakarta but from Medan, Pandang, Ujung Pandan and Semerang.

Significant numbers of votes would be affected, but it was not possible to say to what extent it might affect the results of the election. Full results are not expected till June.

"In 1982 this double voting has been more widespread and more numerios than it was at the last election in 1977", Mr Lubis said.

"I'm not accusing the Government of rigging the vote," said Mr Lubis, "But the way the results have come out there seems to be a certain purpose behind it." he said it was difficult to predict the emotions of PPP followers and warned the electoral commission that it was "fishing for trouble".

"See? We're even watering it!"

St Lucia back in its groove

From Jeromy Taylor
Port of Spain, May 5

Monday's general election in St Lucia put a decisive end to nearly three years of flirtation with political change and returned the island's 120,000 people to the familiar leadership of the late 1960s and 1970s. The United Workers' Party of Mr John Compton, the former Prime Minister, was swept back to power with 14 of the 17 seats *in the* House of Assembly.

Mr Compton was Prime Minister for 15 years until he was defeated by the St Lucia Labour Party soon after independence from Britain in 1979. He is expected to continue his pro-Western foreign policy and to concentrate on restoring the island's economic growth.

The SLP, which held power for most of the last three years, managed to hold only two of the 12 seats it won in 1979, while the left-wing Progressive Labour Party of Mr George Odlum, which broke away from the SLP last year, took the remaining seat.

Mr Compton is faced with the task of halting St Lucia's economic decline and boosting its crucial tourist and banana industries. He can expect some American support: his victory will gratify Washington.

Guerrilla dies

Rome. — Giorgio Vale, one of Italy's most-wanted right wing urban guerrillas, died in hospital after being shot during a police raid on his Rome hideout. Signor Vale, aged 21, was suspected of being involved in a string of killings and the Bologna station bombing which killed 85 people.

Six up Everest

Katmandu.—Six Soviet climbers, ascending in pairs, had reached the summit of Mount Everest by yesterday. Valentin Inanov, of Moscow, and Sergei Yefimov of Sverdlovsk and two Ukrainians, Serge; Beeshov, of Kherkov and Mikhail Turkevich, of Donetsk, scaled its 29,000ft peak while Eduard Myslovsky, (Moscow) and Vladimir Balyberdin (Leningrad) were descending. The Ukrainians, whose job was to supply food and oxygen to the latter pair, decided to go to the summit themselves.

Last round-up

Kanab, Utah — Sinbad, the horse used by President Reagan when he hosted the Western television series *Death Valley Days*, is dead — killed by a bolt of lightning at the age of 20. Sinbad was retired from show business several years ago and spent his time munching alfalfa and entertaining children.

Doctors stabbed

Stockholm. — Two doctors were stabbed to death and four other people seriously wounded when a patient requesting treatment went berserk in the Fruangen medical centre here. A 35-year-old Yugoslav, was caught by a taxi driver outside the hospital and taken into police custody.



Sudan in difficulties

Gaddafi blamed for Nimeiry's troubles

From Charles Harrison, Khartum

Political problems resulting from rivalries in his own Army, bickering and ineffective leadership from the ruling Sudan Socialist Union, and conflicting demands from the south for the creation of additional regions, are only some of the difficulties now facing President Jaafar el-Nimeiry.

They are *made more* serious by an economic situation which experts describe as disastrous, caused by a high level of imports, lack of efficiency in industries and services, and an enormous debt burden.

Yet President Nimeiry, who has been in power since 1969 — by far the longest term served by any Sudanese leader — insists that the recurring crises are not crucial to either his own survival or to the continuation of Sudan's pro-Western policy. "I can remove my *deputy, and have as many* deputies as I want", he told me. "If any deputy is not working according to my plan, I will take him out".

Similarly, he plays down the importance of the riots which broke out earlier this year after sugar prices, always a hot political issue, had been raised as part of a new economic recovery programme. He says the student agitation against the sugar price increase was a result of Libyan agitation. Although there is no evidence of this, the student body is certainly *open* to influence from Muslim fundamentalists, including Libyans.

President Nimeiry is preoccupied by the alleged Libyan threat, although even some members of his own Government do not see it as a serious affair. His opponents say it is used as a diversion to cover up some of the Sudan's own problems, particularly the rising prices of sugar, bread and other commodities.

An exhibition of captured arms smuggled in from Libya by Sudanese dissidents, who *were allegedly supplied with* them by the Libyan authorities, has been given wide publicity in Khartum. But the few mortars, machine guns, rifles, grenades and booby-trapped portable radios could constitute *no* more than a nuisance.

There are worrying signs that the recent link-up between Libya, Ethiopia and South Yemen is being used to encourage opposition in the Sudan. Libyan finance has been going to Sudanese exiles in Ethiopia, for instance, and the hopeful signs of Sudan-Ethiopia cooperation which appeared in 1980, (when the two leaders exchanged visits), have not continued.

Mr Mohamed Mirghani, the Sudanese Foreign Minister, says however, that there are *signs of a better understanding* with Ethiopia, especially at the administrative level along the frontier.

Dr Magharief said the main support for the overthrow of Colonel Gaddafi comes from inside Libya, and that clandestine radio broadcasts will soon be beamed into Libya from other unspecified, places to arouse more opposition.

The next Organization of African Unity summit conference is due to be held in Tripoli in August, when Colonel Gaddafi would become, by custom, the new *chairman of the OAU. But* President Nimeiry says he does not believe the Tripoli summit will take place — presumably because of the strong opposition to Colonel Gaddafi inside Africa. But he did not suggest how that might happen, and would not say whether he himself would attend if the summit goes ahead as planned.

The Sudan is firmly in the Western camp, and is accepting substantial military and economic support from the United States. This has brought criticism from some other Arab states, and is partly responsible for Colonel Gadafi's opposition.

The complicated question of a division of the present southern Sudan is far from settled, although President Nimeiry has, for the present, overruled proposals for the creation of three separate regions in the south to decentralize government services.

But the elections now taking place for a new president of the Southern Region will revive this issue, and it will *continue to* demand attention. Meambers of the Dinka tribe, the largest in the south, want to retain one region, but other tribes say they want to end Dinka "domination".

In the meantime, the lengthy ques at petrol stations, and the staggering black-market prices for petrol in some remoter places, are evidence of the Sudan's shortage of foreign exchange.

Dutch journalists were ambushed, guerrilla says

The Hague, May 5 — A guerrilla eyewitness claims that the four Dutch television journalists killed by Salvadorean Government troops in March were ambushed, and not killed accidentally in a cross-fire, as . . Salvadorean officials maintain.

The guerrilla's version of the shooting appeared today in the weekly newsmagazine *De Tijd*, and his account was confirmed by Mr Jan Willem Bertens, a Dutch foreign ministry spokesman who questioned him.

Identified only as Martin, the guerrilla arrived earlier this week in the Netherlands to take part in the Dutch Government's investigation of the killings of the television team on March 1.

Martin was accompanied by Señor Salvador Samoya, who holds the position of Foreign minister in the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front, which is fighting to overthrow the Salvadorean Government.

Martin was quoted by *De Titd* as saying that the government patrol was waiting for the television team, and opened fire on them and on the guerrillas who net them as soon as they had all come within shooting range.

Seór Samoya had told the Foreign Ministry that Martin was one of the four guerrillas who net the team by prior arrangement, so that the journalists could film the guerrilla side of the two-and-a-half-year conflict, which has claimed an estimated 40,000 lives. — AP.

□ San Salvador. — The Constituent Assembly yesterday unanimously named the 14 Cabinet ministers *wh are* to work with President Alvaro Nagana.

The moderate Christian Democrats, who control 24 of the 60 seats in the assembly, received three ministries, The Conservative National Conciliation Party also gained three and the right-wing Republican Nationalist Alliance received four ministries. Three ministries, including the interior ministry, went to independents, while the Army will continue to hold the Defence Ministry.

The assembly *reappointed* three ministers. General Jose Guillerno Garcia will remain as Defence Minister. Señor Fidel Chavev Mena, a Christian Democrat who was Forgn Minister under the old junta, will keep his job. The third is Señor Jorge Eduardo Tenouia, an independent.

Vietnamese refugees flee camp

From Richard Hughes,
Hongkong, May 5

Hundreds of south Vietnamese refugees are making their second escape from northern compatriots, but this time from their common sactuary in Hongkong's main refugee camp to a recently vacated one.

Threats of continuing violence by their northern Vietnamese fellow refugees — groups of whom have been attacking the southerners with choppers and iron bars — led to the flight of nearly 1,000 from the Kaitak North camp to the empty Argyle 4 camp, where surprised camp workers allowed them to enter.

The former camp manager, Mr David Smith, who had to return unofficially to duty, pointed out that all the camp's bunks had been removed and that there were no cooking facilities.

Luckily we still have running water and the showers and toilet block is still working, he said. "The returning refugees are volunteering to move furniture and equipment from the Kaitak North camp to improve conditions and are working hard as if to repay us for granting them resanctuary, but it will only be temporary, I expect".

Hongkong police have already arrested 51 Vietnamese refugees for involvement in the factional fighting over the past three days in the Kaitak North camp, where 7,487 refugees are awaiting resettlement.

A police spokesman said that order had been restored inside the camp and that "the two factions have been separated".

Staff at the camp, however, denied that "a line of demarcation" had been, or could be established. The deputy chairman of the camp's management committee, Mr Karl Stumpf, said: "We should not allow them to be segregated because they must learn how to live together."

Many Hongkong residents in a public housing estate next to the Kaitak North camp are alarmed at the outbreak of armed fighting.

They report that some of the refugees have been chasing one another and brawling outside the camp during the past months, but that they have been reluctant to report the incidents to the police because of fears of retaliation.

The office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said that the problem was under careful study and emphasized that the recent severe tightening of resettlement programmes resulted in new arrivals having greatly reduced resettlement prospects.

Mr Lewis Davies, the Hongkong Secretary for Security, pledged that a strong police presence would be maintained

It is expected that the refugees who made their second escape to the vacated camp will soon be returned to the Kaitak North camp.

Hard-labour punishment has been proposed for arrested refugees.

Turks demand action on death of consul

Ankara, May 5—The Turkish Government summoned Mr Robert Strauss-Hupe, the American Ambassador and demanded immediate measures to apprehend the killers of the Turkish honorary consul general for New England.

Mr Orhan Gunduz was shot *dead as he sat at the wheel* of his car in Somerville, Massachusetts, on Tuesday night by two men posing as joggers. An Armenian group claimed responsibility.

Mr Gunduz was the second Turkish official to be killed in the United States this year. UPI

Africans reject Namibia scheme

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg, May 5

Black Africa's "front-line"states have rejected as sterile the current Western attempt to secure a negotiated settlement of the Namibia question, and declared that it should be set aside in favour of a "Geneva-type conference under the auspices of the United Nations."

This statement — the most serious setback for the Western negotiating effort since it began towards the end of last year — was issued after a meeting yesterday in Dar Es Salaam, the Tanzanian capital, of "front-line" foreign ministers and Mr Sam Nujoma, the President of Swapo (South-West Africa *People's Organization*).

The meeting was convened at the request of the Swapo leader, whose guerrilla forces have been fighting a bush war against the South African Army since 1966 for Namibia's independence. The territory was a German colony until the end of the First World War, but is now occupied by South Africa in defiance of international law.

The Dar Es Salaam meeting, which was attended by Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Angola in addition to Tanzania and Swapo, gave its full backing to Mr Nujoma's rejection ofthe latest Western settlement proposals, dealing with the election of a constituent assembly in Namibia, and also to his call for a new *international* conference to tackle all outstanding issues.

In what was perhaps the most significant passage in their communique, the foreign ministers said that they "shared Swapo's deep disenchantment with the current protracted and sterile phased approach to a negotiated solution of the Namibian question as proposed by the (Western) contact group".

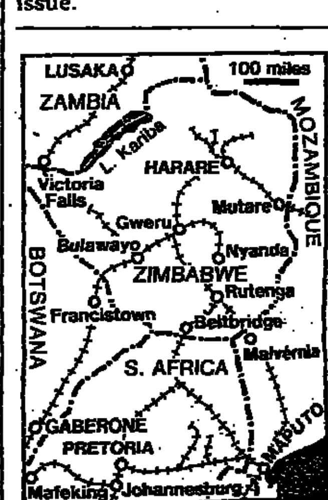
This is a reference to the strategy, pursued since last autumn by America, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany, which seeks a settlement by stages, getting agreement first on the broad shape of Namibia's constitution, and then going on to other matters such as the size and deployment of the United Nations force that would be sent to keep the peace in the run-up to pre-independence elections.

While Swapo and its African allies have frequently objected to specific aspects of the West's proposals, they have not previously expressed such strong dislike of the whole negotiating procedure.

Western diplomatic sources, who were still digesting the implications of the latest African statement, today pointed out that the last all-in coference of this kind failed in Geneva in January, 1981 — and that present phased negotiating process was in part a response to that failure.

The sources expected that the contact group would meet in the course of the next fortnight or so to reappraise their position.

In the meantime, it has been confirmed that Dr Chester Croker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, who has been leading the Western Group, will meet senior South African officials in Switzerland next week (not this Thursday as originally reported) for confidential talks on the Namibia issue.



Zimbabwe border blast

From Stephen Taylor,
Harare, May 5

A series of explosions in the town of Beit Bridge in *South Matabeleland, on* Zimbabwe's border with South Africa, damaged railway, electricity and water installations, the police confirmed.

The damage to a water tank, a pylon and a stretch of railway line was slight and the supply of electricity to the town was not affected.

Officials did not comment on who was responsible, but the area is one in which dissidents from one of the country's former guerrilla armies have been active.

Police have also disclosed that one member of a gang was seriously wounded and two others captured in a shoot-out south of Bulawayo on Monday. The gang's presence at a *Kraal* in the rural area about 25 miles south of the city had been reported to the army.

Guru of the baths

An English Temper

Essays on Education, Culture & Communications

By Richard Hoggart

(Chatto & Windus, £9.50)

Up the road from Goldsmith's College, South London, is a public baths, "lavatorially-tiled, *smelling* of chlorine, very bleak-looking, very shabby". One of its frequent visitors is the College Warden and cultural prophet of the '50s and '60s, Richard Hoggart. Whether Mr Hoggart, adult-educationalist, ex-United Nations bureaucrat and author of the twenty-five-year-old best seller, *The Uses of Literacy*, attends the baths for research or refreshment is not stated. What he finds there, however, is an overweight attendant — "what our right-wing press likes to call a yobbo or layabout" — who on one noted occasion grabbed the good guru and drew his attention to the prettiness of the Edwardian wrought-iron roof.

"His vocabulary was massively inadequate to what he was trying to say", writes Hoggart,

his conscious sense of the amazing thing that was happening inside him almost non-existent. This story underlines once again that we must resist the constant pressure to undervalue others, especially those that do not inhabit our own publicly articulate world, also our duty not to romanticise the situations such people are in

In this book of nineteen essays — mostly written since 1975 — Hoggart has always to tread this same difficult path between rejecting and romanticizing the achievements of the popular culture he did so much to promote. It makes a brave piece of retrospection.

He faces up to the most manifest horrors — the 200-acre university campuses that have become the middle-class equivalent of the now-disgraced tower-blocks, the polytechnics where mass-media courses have been judged more "relevant" than Shakespeare. His UNESCO work in the early '70s has cast an unkindly blight over his faith in the cure-all powers of communication. He still has hankerings after the concept of some industrialized noble savage but, except in his local bath house, reality wins through.

An influential thread that passes through all his work is distaste for the convoluted jargons used by politicians and PR men to gull their working class victims. In a sharp study of Matthew Arnold as a schools inspector he compares approvingly the clear short sentences of an 11-year-old state school girl with the latinate periods of a boy in private education.

The best that can be said for Hoggart's own prose style is that it stands in our oral rather than written tradition. In one of many remarkable sentences he offers two dashes, a parenthesis within the dashes, a semi-colon within the parenthesis and some final emphasizing italics to help clear the confusion. Neither for its content nor style can *An English Temper* be called a joy to read; but the thoughts of a sincere idealist — however muffled by experience — repay some small, sad study.

Peter Stothard



Look out in the slips. Watercolour of A Young Cricketer by William Henry Hunt, always esteemed by artists, critics, and now collectors, but one of the most seriously underdocumented of English nineteenth-century painters. The omission is now repaired by this full Life and Work with a catalogue by Sir John Witt (Barrie & Jenkins, £35).

Fiction

A Chain of Voices
By André Brink

(Faber, £7.95)

At the risk of upsetting readers who turn to these columns for respite from the fanastical events chronicled elsewhere in the paper, and *not of course wishing to* add to the burden carried by the leaders of two great nations, it has to be said that the recent behaviour of both Mrs Thatcher and the Argentina Junta lends impressive support to Friedrich Engels's claim that history makes itself in such a way that the final result always arises from the conflict between individual wills.

This belief dictates the structure of André Brink's fifth novel. It is based on one of the bitterest and most poignant episodes in South African history, the murder of three white settlers by a group of slaves in February, 1825. The voices of the book's title belong to the two dozen or so Boer farmers, Hottentots, and African slaves who were caught up in the abortive act of rebellion; and the story is told through their individual testimonies. It's a well tried device, particularly suitable when the culmination is made known at the outset. Since there is no independent narrative, it also makes heavy demands on an author's ability to create characters from the inside. But here, as in his choice of subject matter, Mr Brink is playing to established strength. And the result is a *triumph, not only of story* telling, but of insight into the belief — held with equal conviction by both sides — that there are only two sorts of people in the world: those born to oppress, and those born to be slaves.

The saga unfolds on the van der Merwe farmstead, high *on the* Bokkeveld, seven days by waggon from Cape Town, and therefore almost out of reach of unsettling rumours that the British authorities there are going soft on slavery. Almost out of reach, but not quite, because the immediate cause of the uprising is the dashing of hopes raised by a false rumour that all slaves are to be given their freedom. Hope, as one of them reflects afterwards, is the hardest thing to live with.

However, the seeds of discontent were sown a quarter of a century earlier, when old Piet van der Merwe allowed a young slave, Galant, to be reared alongside his own sons, Barend and Nicolaas, and their adopted "sister" Hester. Or, more precisely, at the moment when childhood ends, and the four playmates have to assume their adult roles. Nicolaas loves Hester, which is sufficient reason for Barend to exercise his pre*rogative as elder son*, and claim her for himself. As a consolation prize, their father gives Galant to Nicolaas, to help him run the farm he had hoped to escape from.

Unfortunately, Piet's style of child-rearing, like his approach to everything else, was based on selective reading of the Bible and liberal use of the sjambok. As a result, both his sons have become weak bullies, desperate to draw on the greater strength of the individuals over whom they have been given absolute power, and swift to resort to brute force when they meet only con*tempt. But each flogging* merely reinforces Galant's conviction that he is superior to his master, just as Hester's hold over her husband becomes more complete every time she is raped by him.

The explosive violence of the ending follows so inexorably from what has gone before that no tension is lost by having it revealed at the beginning. But Mr Brink's real achievement is to explore simultaneously the psychological and sociological forces which make the tragedy inevitable, dextrously weaving the threads of domestic conflict into the grander tapestry of historical change.

Terry Coleman's **Thanksgiving** (Hutchinson, £7.95) also deals with historical events of great significance, but it's small beer by comparison. Wolsey Lowell, the beautiful though dangerously over-educated daughter of a Yorkshire priest, sails to America with the Pilgrim Fathers. She marries a scholar who goes mad, and is forced to leave Plymouth for the comparative sybaritism of New Amsterdam, where she takes up with jolly Irish sea-dog Harry O'Brien. They have twin daughters, who subsequently accompany a French explorer on an ill-fated expedition into Indian territory.

Mr Coleman belongs to the broad-sweep school of trawling. Real characters like Peter Stuyvesant, Oliver Cromwell, George Downing, and Samuel Pepys wander on to the pages to pass the time of day with Coleman's fictional creations, talking (and thinking) in a curious hybrid of seventeenth and twentieth century speech. A great deal happens, but it all gets a bit out of hand, largely because the writer seems to lose track of who it is that the book is really about. It's a good yarn, though, and worth taking on *holiday, even if the only* result of reading it is to send you back to Fenimore Cooper and Captain Marryat.

John Nicholson

Down with cads

The Gentleman in Trollope

Individuality and Moral Conduct

By Shirley Robin Letwin

(Macmillan, £15)

The Gentleman is an obsolescent beast in our egalitarian age. It is difficult to use the word without pomposity or sarcasm. Why, the anti-elitist embarrassment has seeped down even to our public lavatories, which are labelled Men rather than Gents. The title of this book implies that it is a narrow work of Lit Crit. On the contrary, it is an unfashionably broad work of philosophy, arguing that the concept of the English Gentleman is a forgotten and better morality.

Dr Letwin suggests that the English Gentleman has a more sensible approach. He is an individual who appreciates the differences in other individuals. He does not presume to have a direct telephone line to God or History, nor hold himself responsible for setting the world to rights. He sees mortal existence as a gift which men have a duty to *enjoy. His attitudes to work*, money, class, sex, and the position of women were saner than those of the self-divided man. Shirley Letwin uses Trollope for her field work to find specimens of the vanishing species. She could just as well have used Jane Austen or Fielding. It is *not a matter of gender.* By her standards the most perfect gentleman in Trollope's novels is Madame Max Goesler; and her antipode, the most utter cad, is Lizzie Eustace, rudderless and unable to respect any limits or order.

This is entertaining, provocative, unfashionable stuff; even if Shirley Letwin as an American is more impressed by the English Gent than those of us to the mannerism born. I dare say that even that paragon of creation, the Gentleman, had something to learn from such prophets of our divided century as Marx and Freud. But even if you do not buy the moral philosophy entire, the book is an engaging chance to meet again all those diverse living gents and cads in Trollope.

Philip Howard

Buck-you-uppa through pix

Of This Our Time

A Journalist's Story 1905-1950

By Tom Hopkinson

(Hutchinson, £8.95)

As a 1940s kid I read *Picture Post*, along with *Everybody's*, *Illustrated* and *John Bull*, while waiting for a short back-and-sides. Because the magazine seemed so demotic, I had always assumed that its "legendary" editor, Tom Hopkinson, was a man of the people, a gritty figure from oop north, perhaps. His use of the matey "Tom" sup*ported this impression.* The best anagram I can make of his name — "NO! TO MINK SHOP" — reinforces the anti-luxurious working-class image, though admittedly the anagram of the ennobled *Sir* Tom Hopkinson — "I'M TO SINK POOR NHS" — has a more reactionary twist.

So it was a surprise to discover that Hopkinson was the son of a archaeologist who became Archdeacon of Westmorland; that he had a public school and Oxford education; and that he is diverted by social trivia (his Oxford scout, William, "knew 26 different ways to fold a napkin.")

Yet my *mental* picture of Hopkinson was not wholly adrift. For a start, he *does* come from oop north: he was born in Manchester. And he is rather grim. He does not *lack humour*, but under everything lies moral imperative and social conscience (and why not?) and something more fey which causes him to flirt with the notion of reincarnation.

A buck-you-uppa note sounds throughout the book, as if we all needed our morales boosting as in the dark days of *Picture Post*. (Perhaps we do.) And a Samuel Smiles self-made-man consciousness comes through in the chapter headings — "Ladder of Learning", "First Steps on a Long Road"; "Success" — as though he were the hero of an Arnold Bennett or Howard Spring novel. The passages of self-congratulation (including laudatory quotations about him) can be forgiven, partly because he scrupulously records his mistakes and failures too, and partly because he has a lot to be immodest about.

The book perks up as it goes along. The first chapters reflect his dreary childhood. His parson father was oppressively saintly, and an upbringing by that sort can be more warping than by a carefree rogue. By the second page, Hopkinson has *already told of two untruths* into which he was forced by father's piety. The odour of sanctity must have stunk out the house.

Hopkinson is reticent about his private life. The brusque coverage of his various marriages reminded me of the parody of Anthony Powell in a *New Statesman* competition: "At the party I met Elise, to whom, I recalled, I had been married." But his professional life is well recalled. Like John Wain in the model autobiography, *Sprightly Running*, he does not just select and record incidents, he makes it clear what he learned from them.

He was obviously a good, decisive editor, and he passed the final test of integrity with honours when Edward Hulton (to whom he is more *than fair*) *sacked him* because Hopkinson insisted on publishing atrocity pictures of "our side" in the Korean war. That moral imperative again.

Picture Post did not long survive him. It has sunk into the mulch of "Smilin' Through" *nostalgia, with* Dame Myra Hess and Itma. Sir Tom convinces me that it was not television that killed it off; but by bringing the living reality into our homes, television ensured that it could never be revived. How doomed the formula is today was proved by the failure of *Sir James Goldsmith's* heavily pictorial NOW! magazine, of which even the logo was a coarsened crib of *Picture Post's*.

Bevis Hillier

Paperbacks

Scottish Walks and Legends by Janice Anderson and Edmund Swinglehurst (Granada, two vols, £1.50)

Should one bewail a paucity *of pedestrian literature?* Ask the poor old Lit. Ed. and his eyeballs roll towards the ceiling; but in the literal sense, yes, indeed we should. Cobbett rode and Theroux chugged, but did anyone of any interest walk?

The answer, of course, is yes, but at the moment *they're keeping it all unto* themselves. Perhaps Anderson and Swinglehurst should have done the same. It's one thing to meet some back-packed bore halfway up Scafell itching to unload a tall tale, but two volumes of the things are quite a different matter. Tam Lin is a *pretty* legend but, like the rest, poorly recounted. The walks usually bear little relation to the stories which accompany them. Just to make sure you really do get lost, the publishers have kindly transposed the main maps in the two volumes and omitted to provide indices, so if you find someone looking for Culloden in Dumfriesshire this summer you know whom to blame.

Walking in Scotland, edited by Roger Smith (Spur, £4.95), on the other hand, while no great read, does represent an astonishing compendium of genuine walker's knowledge of the terrain. The Scottish *area of the Ramblers' Association* was behind the book, and one can only thank them deeply. Had I spent as many difficult hours as the various writers have trekking through the length and breadth of the country, I should not yield up my secrets so readily. The intro*ductory sections to each* region are sound and backed up by bibliographies, and one is left with the impression that the book stems from a knowledge of Scotland rather than a quick dash through the heather, notebook in hand. A Lewis man, shown the relevant chapter on his *abode, praised its accuracy.* I need say no more.

Robert Orrell's **Saddle Tramp in the Lake District** (Granada, £1.50) is not strictly pedestrian. Dogged by failure and debts, he took to hoofing it round the Lake District on two ponies and sleeping under the stars. There is obvious affection for the countryside, and the author seems a likeable fellow, but we appear to be directionless in sub-Herriot land.

Wynne Bartlett has a fancy for the Lakes too, particularly the haunts of Beatrix *Potter:* **Lakeland Walks from Beatrix Potter** (Warne, 75p). Miss Bartlett's brand of literary detection should win her a contract with Jonathan Cape's metaphysics section.

David Hewson

TEXAS

"Think of Texas as a country", Texans often tell strangers. The advice is superfluous; there is no other way to think of it. Texas is bigger than any European country except the USSR; the whole United Kingdom would fit into it almost three times; it stretches halfway from the Mexican to the Canadian border, and a third of the distance from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is 245 times as big as Rhode Island, the smallest of the 50 states.

Where legend lives in the good daily life

Everything in Texas is big, in fact and legend, until the two are indistinguishable. One discovers that one governor, Mr Richard B. Hubbard, weighed more than 400 pounds. Why not? It's Texas. When I lived there, a paid obituary in a cattle journal announced the death of Mr Brankala, a bull of more than 2,000lbs, a cross between an Angus and a Brahman which had left 3,000 ampules of its semen. By any Texan standard, it did not seem prodigious.

Texans had been renowned and disliked for boasting of their bigness, until one of the best known writers among them said: "Texans should learn silence". But this must be understood of Texas: the closeness of legend to fact, and of fact to legend, is striking and telling. The popular concept of the Texan, as one Texan historian says, still has vitality and meaning in daily life. In spite of the relentless pressures of national integration and homogenization, Texans are still regarded by themselves and others as people with a difference.

Texans even now talk of the United States as if it were a separate nation to which Texas is joined only by a treaty of convenience. They have some justification in both history and law. Texas joined the United States very much on its own terms. When it was admitted to the Union, it was given the right, if it should ever wish to do so in the future, to divide itself into more than one state. By turning themselves into five states, each the size of New York, Texans could have 10 instead of two United States senators.

Of more immediate importance is that the control of its public lands is much more in its own hands and not those of Washington than is the case in other states. This has encouraged the obsessive passion for land speculation that has been a persistent feature of Texan life. Given the size of the land and the scale of much of the ranching and farming, this speculation had always been the root of both the fact and the legend of the Texans' easy fortunes. The get-rich-quick Texan was a legend long before the oil gushed.

The discovery of the oil only magnified the speculative possibilities in land which was already rich in timber and crops and cattle. That it made huge fortunes overnight for so many people was again not a new phenomenon in Texan life. Even before Spindletop blew its black gold out of the ground, the land itself had made the Texan of fact and legend: the confident and free-swinging entrepreneur.

Wealth is not regarded in Texas as a commodity to conserve. The Texan does not think of himself merely as a custodian. As an individual, he used it for a good and extravagant life. (When a Texan talks of the good life, as he is apt to do, one can see and touch the things which make it good.) As a businessman, he uses it to make yet more by calculated risks. The millionaires who import snow from the Rockies for their parties indulge in no less expansive schemes in their businesses.

In a state whose people live more by plunder than any comparable number of people anywhere else in the modern world, it would be an invitation only to disappointment and even to cynicism to expect either its political or its social life to be virtuous. A Texan wrote to his mother in 1836 as a Texan might still write: "Mother, I am afraid the way from Texas to heaven has never been blazed out."

Texans do not only plunder their own land. To them it is part of their treaty rights to plunder the rest of the United States. They plundered the federal government during the New Deal more than any other state, and they show their gratitude: driving from Houston to San Antonio you pass through a town appropriately called New Deal. But it is now dying, bypassed by the expressway.

For there is more now, elsewhere, for the Texans to plunder. For several years now they have plundered the U.S armed services, using the political clout that was perfected by Sam Rayburn and Lyndon Johnson, to bring army and air force basis to the state, and also huge and ever-multiplying contracts for its old and new but ever-expanding industries. The U.S. armed services, Texans are not unwilling to boast, is one of their cash crops.

It would be disillusioning also to go to Texas and expect it to be non-violent. A visitor who noticed in the early days that its natural death rate was low in comparison with other states, said that Texans made up for it by patriotcally practising mortal combat with each other so that Texas would lead the nation even in this. Texans are not now so quick to draw, yet the violent settlement of disputes is common.

The Texas Rangers now ride in cars, sometimes switching to boats and aircraft, but always with a saddle in the boot.

Yet with it all, these people with a difference are among the most attractive in America, and the difference counts. The long years of bloody encounters with the Mexicans, a civilized people, left a different mark than the encounters of other Americans with the Indians. They are also the only state which was an independent nation before it entered the Union. The ten years of the Republic of Texas still give them a unique indentity.

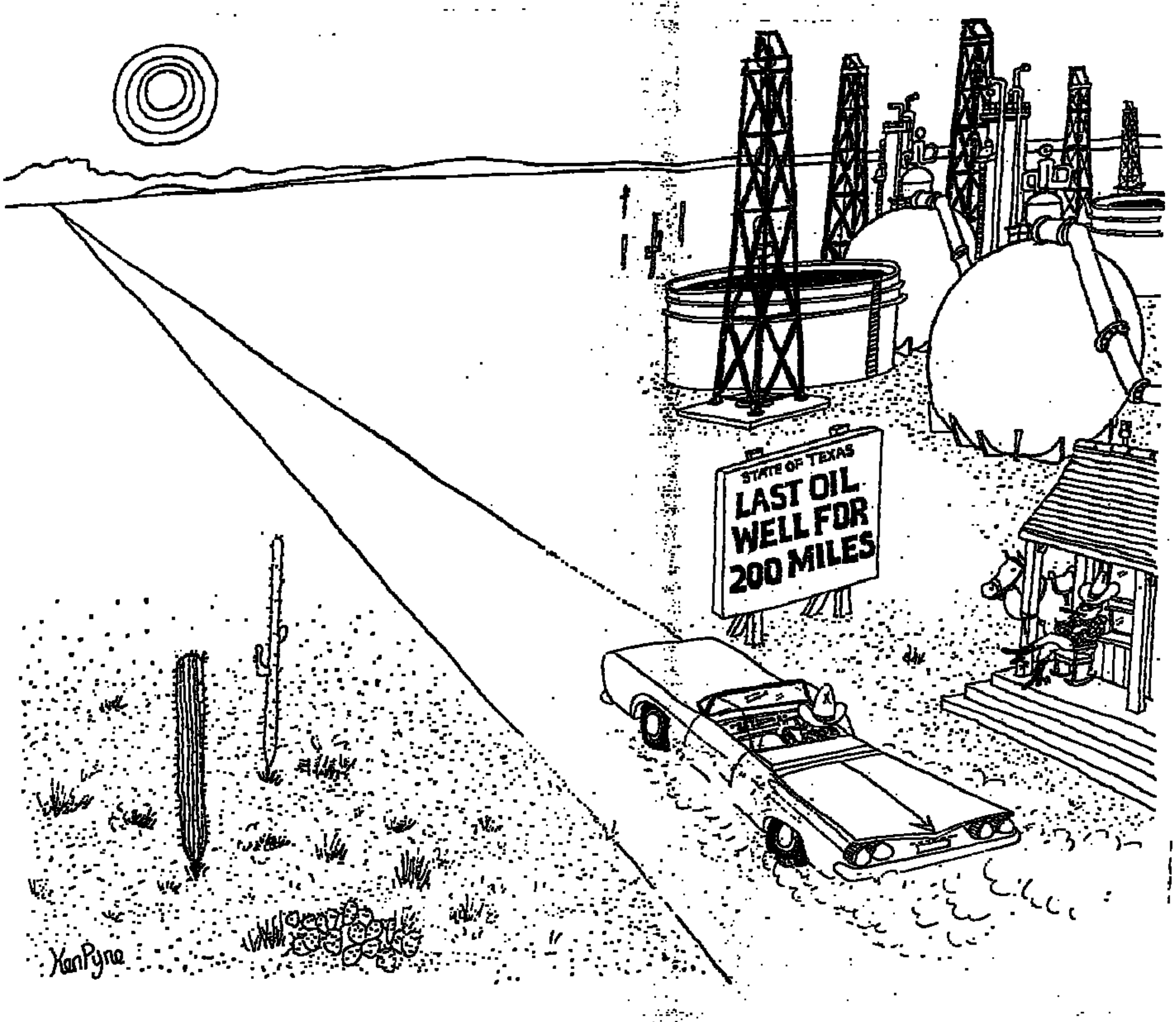
For these and other reasons, as one Texan historian has recently said, they are frontiersmen still, but adjusted to the modern world in a unique way. One can meet no real Texans without finding them, as he says, adventurous, mobile, aggressive and adaptive; strongly individualistic and yet egalitarian; optimisitic and utilitarian; volatile and chauvinistic, which spills into provincialism and race-arrogance.

But the vitality is irresistible, and with the vitality is the generosity, so ready a generosity and so uncloying. For in them is the spaciousness of their land. I once drove the whole length of it, from north to south, starting on ice-packed roads, arriving at last on subtropical gulf. There is the timber, all round are the great plains, in the middle is the hill country, a gently rolling land of goat ranches. Driving as the sun set on evening, white-tailed deer grazing everywhere, we suddenly found ourselves in the middle of a herd of buffalo.

In the Mercedes-Benz convertible with the top down, the south fork of the Guadelope, clean and sparkling, flowing softly at the foot of a hill, there was only one thing to do. I burst into song with such tune as my voice can manage: "Give me a home where the buffalo roam; and the deer and the antelope play".

Everyone has their own Texas. Mine is there but also in the flaring petrochemical industry on the ship channel. Why have to choose in a state which is a country?

Henry Fairlie



As the gushers dry, what now?

In Texas car bumper stickers still exhort passers-by to get an oil well, but the energy euphoria of the last couple of years is ebbing away.

The rapid decline of the oil price, reversing the sharp rise in the United States after President Reagan lifted regulations, high interest rates and the recession in the economy are all taking their toll.

Major groups may still be spending more — Exxon's domestic capital and exploration spending this year is expected to rise 25 per cent to $6,000m — but for many independents and oil service companies the boom, while not going into a bust, is slackening off.

As Mr George Mitchell, of Mitchell Energy and Development Corporation, one of the larger, very successful independent groups put it: "You're going to see a pretty tough year, this year."

His company last year had an energy budget of $450m. This year that has been cut to $300m and may be cut again, depending what happens to interest rates. From 360 wells drilled in the continental United States last year, Mitchell Energy will drill between 250 and 275 during 1982.

Refining — 25 per cent of the nation's capacity is in the Houston and Gulf area — is in the doldrums and the petrochemical industry is depressed.

No one believes that the search for oil both worldwide and in the United States is going to tail off permanently. "It's going to continue to grow through the rest of this century," said Mr Bill Kistler, president of the Drilling Tools and Equipment group of Hughes Tool, the Houston-based rig equipment manufacturer. "We are going to have to continue to rely on oil and gas as the major energy source." Texas is really where the modern oil industry started, with the first discoveries of the giant fields that revolutionized its development.

Rotary drilling developed in the East Texas fields and as the major United States companies increased their exploration and production overseas in the 1950s and 1960s Houston in particular developed as the international oil capital. "More than any other town in the world", Mr Kistler said, "Houston is the centre of the oil business."

Texas itself has since gone into a long-term decline as an oil producing region. Despite increased drilling over the last couple of years, production of oil and gas has continued to drop and reserves, if nothing new were found, would be exhausted in less than eight years.

Nevertheless oil price deregulation, and the spurt in prices following the Iranian crisis, have made many marginal prospects profitable. Many new operators have come into the area. Well over half of the most active independents in Houston were not there 15 years ago and between 40 and 45 per cent of them were not there ten years ago.

These independents do not confine their activities to Texas. Sanders Oil and Gas, a small independent in Dallas, has acreage in the Abo trend in Chaves county, New Mexico. This is a "tight gas" area, which means that because the structures need to be fractured to gain production, a higher price can be obtained under government control — gas is still regulated — than from simpler structures. Sanders will actually be drilling more wells this year than last. Last year it could not get the acreage it wanted at the right price. Competition is fierce. Mr Tad Sanders, a vice predident, reckoned that there were three to four times the number of operators interested in prospects than there were five years ago.

There are signs, however, that interest is flagging. Investment is unlikely to flow into speculative drilling ventures this year, the way it

Continued on facing page











Banking: rapid growth despite a legal straitjacket

In little more than a decade banking in Texas has changed out of all recognition. Although Houston and Dallas are not, and probably never will be, financial centres of the type and scale seen in New York, London or Hongkong, the area has quickly established itself as a place where it is essential for international banks to be.

Growth has been very fast indeed. Total bank deposits in Texas increased by 212 per cent to a total of $82,200m between 1970 and the end of 1981 compared with an increase nationwide of 154 per cent to September last year.

Coupled with this growth has been a sharp rise in competition as foreign banks and domestic banks outside Texas have set up operations. So far Houston has taken the brunt of the expansion following the energy led growth of the city. There are now 64 foreign banks operating in some way in Houston compared with only 15 in 1976. But Dallas is seeing the impact too with five foreign banks and 18 non-Texas US banks competing for business.

Texas has very restrictive banking laws. It operates under what is known as a unit banking system. This outlaws branch banking and means that each bank must be incorporated separately with its own board of directors.

Until 1970 the Texas banks did very little international business at all, but then First National in Dallas and Republic Bank, two of the four largest Texas banks, set up offices in London. Then a change in the Texas banking laws allowed the forming of holding companies. The big banks expanded rapidly by acquisition. Republic, for example, has more than 30 banks in its group and Interfirst, which includes the National Bank in Dallas, more than 50. The ten largest bank holding companies now own about 350 banks and control almost 55 per cent of the deposits in the state.

The Texas banks were able to expand with an economy that has seen a 43.5 per cent increase in employment between 1970 and 1981, an explosion of new construction and a boom during the last couple of years when the rest of the US stagnated. This expansion has allowed them to take on increased international business and to compete with the influx of foreign and US domestic banks.

A change in the US federal banking laws had by 1980 allowed non-Texas banks to conduct international loan business from offices in the state. Earlier they had to rely on representative offices, with the business placed with their headquarters. New banks have moved in rapidly and are aggressively looking for new accounts. "Local businessmen would much rather deal with their local bank or what they perceive to be their local bank," said Mr Harry Folk, who runs the Manufacturers' Hanover operation set up last July.

The competition is greatest with large corporation and international business, but it is also growing in the middle market. "If you have professional expertise in a specialized area of banking you can compete quite successfully, said Mr Joe Musolino, president of Republic Bank in Dallas.

Republic formed the International Energy Bank in London with the Royal Bank of Scotland (which was one of the first foreign banks to set up in Texas), Barclays and others, to take on North Sea lending and recently closed a $1,100m oil loan with Barclays and 21 other banks. The intention is not to compete head on with the banks like the National Westminster, Chase Manhattan or Fuji Bank but to specialise and select. It is in the middle market where the fight may be getting tougher.

Manufacturers' Hanover is looking for business in this area and so is another newcomer, Standard Chartered, which opened a representative office in Houston in May 1979 and an "Edge Act" bank conducting foreign business in January 1981. It intends to open another in Dallas soon.

Competition is fierce both for Texas banks and those which come from outside the State. The overseas banks have an initial problem in persuading a prospective client why he should deal with a foreign organization. "It is one of the biggest difficulties you have when knocking on their door," said Mr David Hawkins, who heads Standard Chartered in Houston.

For the Texas banks the impact of the foreigners has meant shaving interest rates. "With strong loan demand we have all to be able to show good profits but it has had an effect and has demanded the greatest efficiency possible", said Mr Robert Greer, chairman of Cullen's Bank in Houston and the present chairman of the Texas Bankers' Association.

The Cullen/Frost group's earnings rose by 30 per cent last year. Republic's were up by a third, but the Texas economy is not proving totally immune from recession and growth could well slow this year.

Further ahead is the effect of a deregulation of the American banking system. Most United States bankers expect interstate banking to come, the only question is when.

Nicholas Hirst

How one city excited the world

In the minds of many people around the world the words "Houston" and "Mission Control" are synonymous. The city of Houston and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Lyndon B. Johnson Space Centre have been identified as a single entity almost since the space centre site was chosen in 1961 and their special relationship began.

The rest of the world shared in that sense of unity of identity when the first words spoken by men standing on the surface of the moon were radioed back to earth, beginning: "Houston, Tranquillity Base here — the Eagle has landed." Since that July day in 1969, the Johnson Space Centre has given the world the visionary Mercury, Apollo and Gemini space programmes, and now has responsibility for the Space Shuttle programme. "We excited the world", said Dr Christopher Kraft, the director of the Johnson Space Centre, who made his first trip to Houston when the 1,620-acre Nasa site was still a cow pasture.

"At the time we moved here the city was in the throes of deciding whether rapid development was the answer or not. The atmosphere surrounding our programme contributed to the futuristic outlook of this particular area of the country and added enormous impetus to the development of Houston."

The Johnson Space Centre was officially opened in September 1963 with a mandate to design, develop and test spacecraft and associated systems for manned flight; to select and train astronauts; to plan and conduct manned missions; and to participate in medical, engineering and scientific experiments to help man understand and improve his environment. Situated 25 miles southeast of central Houston, the Nasa facility and its staff rapidly became a major influence on the developing city, lending a charisma to the metropolitan area. "Our greatest contribution has been to education in the area", Dr Kraft said. "Because we are an educated group of people we helped develop the schools and the outlook of the universities, not just in research but in a wide-ranging area of programmes.

"Downtown Houston was influenced by the spirit of Nasa and used the space programme as a flag to establish its own identity." Approximately 3,500 engineers, technicians, scientists, secretaries, mathematicians, managers, clerks, photographers, writers, instructors, administrators and astronauts are employed at the Johnson Space Centre and another 7,500 people work in the region for support contractors.

The combined staff brings in between $250m and $300m a year in wages and an extra $50m to $100m in additional revenue. Much of the money is spent in the immediate vicinity of Nasa's establishment and new motels, shopping plazas, homes and schools are evident. During the next 10 years the bulk of the management of the Space Shuttle programmes will be shifted to the Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral in Florida, but Nasa will still retain a major presence in Houston. "Currently we plan to have a fleet of four Shuttles operational by the end of the decade with a further four built for Nasa by the turn of the century," said Dr Kraft.

"Columbia will be joined by Challenger, Discovery and Atlantis by 1990 and the United States Air Force will have its own shuttle in operation also. Air Force personnel will join us here at the Johnson Space Centre for Columbia's fourth mission to monitor our operation and manage the Department of Defence payload the shuttle will be carrying."

Dr Kraft admitted that some Nasa employees were concerned at the increased security measures the newcomers were insisting upon at the Space Centre. "We have been used to operating totally openly here but the Air Force people want to start installing locks and tightening things up generally. Nasa is a civilian agency and by charter is dedicated to the peaceful development of space for the benefit of all mankind. There will be some restrictions in the future but not enough to change the nature of Nasa".

Dr Kraft is a strong supporter of Nasa and its charter. He has fought numerous attempts to wrest control of the organization from its civilian directorship and place it on a more political and/or military footing.

"Nasa has been asked to do a lot of things that are really beyond its charter", he said. "We have been asked to solve the energy problem, to devote time to the environmental problem and look at the other massive problems confronting the human race. But we have a charter and that charter is space, any divergence from that goal would dilute the agency and take away its altruism and ideals."

In the future the Johnson Space Centre will be the home of the technical arm of Nasa, a role which Dr Kraft believes will continue to challenge its employees.

Dr Kraft predicts that in 20 years the Johnson Space Centre will have increased the number of its staff by about one third with Nasa activities spread equally at Cape Canaveral and Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. "Our efforts will be assisted by strong participation from private industry. The character of Nasa may change superficially but I believe that its essential nature will remain the same and will continue to contribute toward the development of Houston and the United States", he said.

Piers Akerman

Dallas, where business is business

Hertz Rent-a-Car at the Dallas city airport of Love Field displays a reservation card for a Mr J. R. Ewing. It is a nice touch, but Dallas the city looks much less glossy in real life than it does in the opening title sequences of the television show.

Cranes spoil the skyline. The television picture when compared with the real thing makes Dallas frozen in unreal time. The real city has constant road construction and the building of a fast-growing community. There are oil men here and, as in the television programme, many of them own ranches. But unlike Houston, Dallas does not come across primarily as an oil city. The catchphrase heard at promotional conferences, in bars, and in company boardrooms is that the business of Dallas is business.

Put simply, Dallas is more of a white collar town than Houston; its industry is lighter, more diverse, and it likes to think of itself as a financial, banking and insurance centre.

Houston was in fact founded before Dallas, but Dallas gives the impression of being the older community, more established, more culturally aware. Houstonians would say "less exciting". Maria Callas opened the Opera in Dallas in 1957 and the Dallas Theatre was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The raucousness of Houston is missing; so, Dallas would claim, are Houston's problems.

Dallas has been growing quickly, and in fact, with more than three million people, the Dallas-Fort Worth area combined is larger than the comparable Houston metropolitan area, but its rate of growth has not been quite so fast. "Dallas has got better understanding of its position and has better control," said Mr Terry Fritz, full-time President of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce. Nevertheless last year Dallas put in more new office space than Houston or even Los Angeles.

The Chamber hopes that within the next 10 years more American companies will have their corporate headquarters in Dallas than in any other American city.. At the moment it lies third behind Houston and Chicago.

Last year the Chamber had an inquiry every three hours from a United States based company to relocate or expand in Dallas. Now it is one every two and a *half* hours. Foreign banks which have rushed to open offices in Houston as the energy and port business expanded are opening them in Dallas too.

But Dallas is facing problems. It has a high rate of neighbourhood robberies. Unemployment in South Dallas, where there is a large black population, is running at 13 per cent, compared with less than 5 per cent in the city as a whole.

It is also likely that while the recession may touch Dallas later and more quietly than it has elsewhere, its effects will be felt this year.

But the city is proud of its planning record. Plans laid for a reservoir in 1940 are just being put into effect — construction work will begin next year and work is already under way to add another international airport to relieve the expected heavy traffic at Dallas-Fort Worth by the year 2000.

N.H.

Oil boom over

Continued from facing page

did in 1981. Operators are looking more askance at prospects in the popular Austin chalk region than they were. This is a faulted area which needs expensive drilling techniques with up to $1m being spent for a single well.

Wells in this area that looked highly profitable at $38 a barrel and more look very marginal with the price falling below $30.

The stock market has taken an increasingly jaundiced view of the oil service companies, which reported sharply increased profits last year. For some, however, the decline in demand for rigs has come as a welcome relief. Such was the interest last year that many old, inefficient rigs with inexperienced crews were brought into service and costs soared.

Now costs are being trimmed, and rig productivity is rising. Last year Hughes Tool found that demand for rig equipment was outstripping its capacity to produce.

Texas, with Houston as its oil capital, has built up expertise that is saleable worldwide. Mr Ed Hess, senior vice-president of Exxon USA, said in testimony to the Texas Railroad Commission: "Summarizing the long term outlook, we believe the world's energy future is basically unchanged. Alternative sources of energy will be expensive and lead times will be long; thus we will continue to rely on conventional energy sources thoughout the century."

Texas, with its concentration of oil and gas technology, will continue to be in the forefront of the search for new finds. But with the present glut of supplies, the immediate future is for slower growth.

N.H.

Aleksei Nikitin and Vladimir Klebanov (insets) appealed in vain to the National Union of Mineworkers for support; Joe Gormley (left) accepted the Soviet explanation, will Arthur Scargill try to help the victims?

Will Arthur Scargill face the truth that Joe Gormley dodged?

Bernard Levin returns to some unfinished business: the case of the two persecuted Soviet miners



When I gave up writing my *Times* column a year ago, I had one item of unfinished business that now, though it is still unfinished, obliges me to seek the newspaper's space and readers' attention today. On April 15, 1981, I told the story of two Soviet coalminers, Mr Vladimir Klebanov and Mr Aleksei Nikitin, who had done two things which, though in theory permitted in Soviet law, are in practice prohibited in that country under the most fearsome penalties.

First, they had drawn attention to the scandalous neglect of safety standards in Soviet mines (a neglect which would be a serious criminal offence in this country, where any miner would be rightly commended, and would receive the full support of the National Union of Mineworkers for disclosing details of it) and to the widespread corruption in the administration of the Soviet mining industry.

Second, and in the eyes of the Soviet authorities far worse, they had attempted to form rudimentary trade unions, in a country where no such organizations are permitted.

It should be noted that neither of these two men campaigned for any *political* change in the Soviet Union; they did not seek or desire the overthrow of the Soviet system, nor did they express any wish to introduce any democratic or representative element into the communist dictatorship of their country. They confined themselves entirely to industrial matters concerned with their own trade, and sought only what trade unionists everywhere seek — an improvement in workers' conditions.

Readers will not need to remember my original column to deduce what happened to these two brave men; they were both sentenced to indefinite terms of lunacy, and incarcerated in that peculiarly vile institution, unique to the Soviet Union, the madhouse-for-the-sane.

Both men were examined by genuine Soviet psychiatrists (to be thus distinguished from the KGB's hired quacks who pronounce sane men mad at the bidding of the Soviet rulers); these declared them mentally fit. (It is worth recording the names and fates of the two doctors in question. Mr Klebanov was examined by Dr Alexander Voloshanovich who, for calling a sane man sane, was subjected to Soviet persecution and in due course had to emigrate; Mr Nikitin was examined by Dr Anatoly Koryagin who, for the same fidelity to his profession and the truth, is now serving a 12-year sentence, the first seven years of it in a concentration camp.)

Mr Klebanov indirectly, and Mr Nikitin directly, appealed to their miner colleagues in this country for help — for help, that is, in their struggle for the establishment of minimal union rights in a country where no such rights exist. This is how Mr Nikitin put it:

> Recalling the fine traditions of the trade unions — traditions formed in the bitter struggle for workers' rights — we ask the union bodies of Great Britain to give help and support to our newly created group in the USSR as regards the organizing of free trade unions.

Alas; Mr Nikitin is undoubtedly sane, but he was far too sanguine about the response of the British National Union of Mineworkers. For the NUM sided with the Soviet bosses against the Soviet workers, and publicly washed their hands of their suffering comrades — suffering, I stress, not for crime or even political agitation, but for trying to form a trade union and to improve working conditions, *and for nothing else at all.*

The NUM washed their hands of their comrades in a statement which for shabbiness and cowardice deserves

They were both incarcerated in that peculiarly vile institution, unique to the Soviet Union, the madhouse for the sane

a prominent place in any museum of those qualities. The Soviet official charged with telling lies to the NUM about Mr Klebanov's case was a Mr Efremenko, who told them that Mr Klebanov had injured his head in an accident and was consequently deranged; he also said that he did not know whether Mr Klebanov had been compulsorily sent to a mental hospital or had entered it voluntarily.

Though the NUM leaders must have known what Efremenko's job was, and must have known that Mr Klebanov had *not* voluntarily entered his psychiatric prison, and though they had been fully informed about Dr Voloshanovich's report of his examination of Mr Klebanov and therefore knew that Mr Klebanov (and later Mr Nikitin) was in no need of any hospital psychiatric treatment and had been sentenced to it solely for standing up for workers' rights, they announced that they were bound to believe Mr Efremenko.

In a shameful "reply" to my column on the subject, the then head of the NUM, Mr Joe Gormley, took care to evade the central issue of Mr Efremenko's mendacity and to make no mention whatever of the independent psychiatrist's conclusion that Mr Klebanov was in no need of incarceration in even a genuine psychiatric hospital, let alone one of the torture-chambers in which sane Soviet dissidents are kept.

He also took care to evade mentioning in any way the passage in the NUM's statement in which they *had* declared themselves obliged to believe Mr Efremenko because the latter was Mr Gormley's opposite number, head of the Soviet miners' union as Mr Gormley was head of the British. (I am not making this up; even after the dramatic events in Poland and the lesson they should have taught even to the unteachable, the leaders of the NUM really did publicly pretend, in a statement announcing their abandonment of a Soviet miner to his fate for trying to form a miners' union in the USSR, that what the department of Soviet management grotesquely called a miners' union was the equivalent of the NUM in this country.)

Mr Gormley, in a passage in his recently published memoirs, has now returned to his apologia, and actually succeeded in making it worse. He begins, as if none of his readers knew the truth, by saying "We do everything we can to help our less fortunate colleagues", going on to explain that he was therefore "livid" when I "had the temerity" to attack him and the NUM over the Klebanov and Nikitin cases. This time he not only repeats his evasion of all the central points of my charges and of the even more detailed ones made in a letter published in *The Times* a few days later from Dr G Low-Beer and Mr Peter Reddaway, he asserts that he had "raised the case" of Klebanov and others, but does not mention that having raised them he dropped them.

Why do I return to the matter now? Partly because Mr Gormley has returned to it; partly because an annual review of such crimes is no bad thing; much more because Mr Klebanov and Mr Nikitin (and Dr Koryagin) are still undergoing frightful suffering with no prospect of an end to it; but also because there are two new developments which affect the case.

First, the World Psychiatric Association may at last be moving towards the expulsion of the Soviet "doctors" who have so betrayed their healing vocation in the interests of political persecution. After 12 years of timidity and obstruction within its ranks, the WPA will almost certainly have before it at the next gathering of its General Assembly (in Vienna, next year) a resolution, passed overwhelmingly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists, in the following terms:

> In view of (a) well documented evidence of the continuing, systematic abuse of psychiatry for political purposes in the Soviet Union since the General Assembly's resolution of September 1977 to "renounce and expunge these practices";
>
> And (b) the failure of the All-Union Society of Neurologists and Psychiatrists to co-operate at all with the WPA's Review Committee on Political Abuse of Psychiatry in its investigation of various complaints by the Royal College of Psychiatrists and other WPA member societies;
>
> This General Assembly resolves that the All-Union Society should now be expelled from the WPA until such time as the All-Union Society can show that the political abuse of psychiatry has been brought to an end.

The other reason is even more directly relevant to the case of Mr Klebanov and Mr Nikitin. Mr Gormley is no

There is a straw to suggest that the wind in the NUM is blowing in the right direction at last

longer leader of the NUM. Since his successor, Mr Scargill, is well-known to be considerably further to the left than Mr Gormley it might be thought that he will be even less inclined to help his suffering comrades in the Soviet Union. But this may be a misreading of Mr Scargill, his character and his situation.

Whatever view may be taken of him, no one could deny that his left-wing credentials are impeccable; one of Mr Gormley's problems, which he had in common with many other union leaders who share his moderate political views, was that he was always conscious of the danger of being outflanked on the left, and this is something that Mr Scargill will not have to worry about.

Moreover, and again irrespective of the view taken of him, few will believe that Mr Scargill, who has declared that the oppressed should be supported in all countries, including communist ones, would ever be reluctant to speak his mind and act upon the speaking. And there is a straw to suggest that the wind in the NUM is blowing in the right direction at last.

In the March issue of its official journal, *The Miner*, there is a remarkable article by Mr Ted Mackay, Area Secretary of the North Wales division. In it Mr Mackay relates the history of Mr Klebanov and Mr Nikitin, going into considerable detail and bringing the story right up to date, including horrifying facts about the torture by drugs undergone by both these miners.

Mr Mackay points out that at the NUM's most recent annual conference a resolution was passed, concerning human rights, "which committed the NUM not just to pious words but to active participation".

Well, the "active participation" of the NUM in the case of their two persecuted Soviet comrades has so far been on the side of the persecutors. Perhaps Mr Scargill, who presumably must have read Mr Mackay's article, will now take steps to ensure that the NUM changes sides and throws its weight behind the victims. At any rate he would find it difficult to contest the argument with which Mr Mackay ends his article, and with which I may perhaps be allowed to end mine.

> ... The question remains — is the Soviet miner a genuinely respected member of the community, when the price he must pay for insisting on decent standards of safety for his fellow workers is forcible detention in a prison mental hospital, and treatment with neuroleptic drugs?
>
> Alexei Nikitin and Vladimir Klebanov were incarcerated for no more than what we in the NUM do almost every day of our working lives. But they do have a hope and a trust — a hope that the NUM will continue its intercession on their behalf, and trust that the compassion of their fellow miners will not allow their heartfelt cries for justice and solidarity to be ignored.
>
> I conclude with what I said at the Annual Conference: if the same criteria applied in Britain for "slandering the system", then every NUM official would be in a psychiatric hospital.

Ronald Butt

The difference the Sheffield has made

There are for the moment no other politics in Britain than those of the Falklands conflict. The future of the Government and three political parties hangs on it, and even the outcome of today's local elections may turn on it.

Externally, the turmoil has serious implications for our relationship both with the United States and our European allies. Both have acknowledged the justice of our cause. Yet the sinking of the Argentine cruiser Belgrano had the immediate effect of weakening the support in Europe for our military action because of the large number of lives that were at first feared lost.

We were thus brought firmly up against the paradox that the more successful we were in naval and military terms, the less popular our cause was likely to become internationally, given that military strength from now on cannot be bloodless. It is doubtful whether our own loss of the Sheffield, which followed swiftly, will swing international feeling back towards us again, whatever its impact on political and public feeling at home.

To the Government, the loss of the Sheffield has only proved what Ministers have realized from the start — that the naval expedition to the Falklands, in the age of the modern missile, could not be *without significant risk*. For the rest of the world, however, the sinking of the Sheffield is more likely to be *seen as a further justification* of the view that the level of force and of losses now in prospect is "disproportionate", the word increasingly being deployed from Labour's front-bench.

These international repercussions will inevitably condition political opinion at home where the naval conflict has already sharpened the division between the Conservative and Labour parties and is likely to polarize opinion in such a manner as to squeeze the Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance at precisely the moment when they were hoping to take off in the local elections as a prelude to becoming a third force in national politics with a chance of a decisive position in the next parliament.

Since the Argentine seizure of the Falklands the Social Democrats, under the leadership of Dr David Owen, have given honest, stalwart and impressive support to the sending of the task force and to its subsequent use.

Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues lose no opportunity of reminding the House of Commons that it sanctioned the sending of the task force — by which she means that all parties gave their approval.

That is correct, so far as it refers to party leaderships. But from the start a significant Labour minority has disliked the idea. A few were opposed to the expedition outright. Many more initially luxuriated in patriotic indignation against the Argentines, and against the errors of British policy that led to the invasion, but they conveniently shut their eyes both to the probability that the task force would have to be used and to their own likely attitude when it was.

The more the military risks have become clear, the more reluctant many Labour MPs have become to support the Government in exerting further military pressure. The mood of Mr Foot himself has fluctuated between the implication last week that there should be no further military action before new diplomatic initiatives, and the broader position that while the task force is rightly reinforcing diplomacy, that diplomacy itself should be quickened.

In recent days (helped by the Government's own increased willingness to talk through the Secretary-General of the UN) the Labour front bench has become cautious, and in the House of Commons yesterday after the sinking of the Sheffield, Mr Healey and Mr Pym were doing their utmost to maintain bipartisanship. Even the left was pretty quiet, realising that in the aftermath of this tragedy they would offend the mood of the country if they seemed to strike against national unity. Yet beneath the surface is an increasing wish in ranks of the Labour Party to back away from military conflict.

The Government itself also wants to negotiate and does not regard the long-term sovereignty of the islands as sacrosanct, provided the islanders consent to whatever is agreed. But it demands that the negotiations should start from a position that recognizes that aggression does not succeed, and acknowledges the rule of law. This, and how to find an acceptable basis for starting to talk, is the essential problem.

The next few days will be fraught with danger and difficulty, both militarily and politically. If a way towards negotiations is not found, the Labour Party will not be contained in its posture of conditional support for the Falklands expedition which its leaders have devised.

Mr Healey is already showing signs of shifting with his reiterated emphasis on "proportionate" force and on negotiations; Mr Foot has throughout been acting against his own instincts in supporting the threat of military action. For a few however, notably for Mr Peter Shore, there might be a real problem if Labour is openly transformed by the stress of events into the peace party. The Falklands may deal another blow to Labour unity.

Politics are thus moving towards polarization over the Falklands in parliament and also probably in the country. Some of the consequences may be measurable in today's local elections. All the signs suggest that public opinion has steadily rallied to the Government for its handling of the crisis and against Labour for its tergiversations.

In some places, it is true, the SDP may benefit from its support for the Government and attract the votes of people who dislike Labour's present posture but do not want to vote Tory. On the other hand, in its build-up before the Falklands crisis, the SDP had increasingly seemed to threaten the Tories more than Labour and the present crisis is likely to change this. Formerly disgruntled Tories are moving back to Mrs Thatcher, though it is not impossible that at the last minute other vote movements against the government could result from the loss of the Sheffield.

The crisis is further proof that the SDP ought to aim principally at the old, patriotic, right-wing Labour constituency in the country rather than at temporary ex-*Tory recruits. More generally*, the signs are that the political centre is being squeezed and that public opinion is rallying to the poles of Conservative and Labour opinion. But that guarantees nothing for any party. The political future is as fluid and uncertain as the military and diplomatic events on which it now hangs.

The luck of Shiny Sheff

That the luck of HMS Sheffield was so swiftly and disastrously expunged in the south Atlantic is the more horrifying in view of the luck which proverbially attended her predecessor, the cruiser "Shiny Sheff" or "Old Shiner". In the Second World War she won 12 battle honours, *and her crew swore she bore a* charmed life.

In one of many incidents, while she was with Force H hunting the Bismarck off Greenland, a Swordfish pilot came out of low cloud to see her rakish grey lines ploughing through the sea dead ahead. Mistakenly the young observer loosed his torpedoes, but the Sheffield's officer of the watch was wide awake, and ordered emergency evasive action. That still worked in those days.

The torpedoes passed safely astern, and the cruiser steamed on through a career that included the explosion of a floating mine which blew a hole 40 feet by 20 feet in the port quarter, yet did not stop the ship reaching the repair base 1,000 miles away; surviving monstrous storms in the Arctic; and a head-on collision with another ship off North Africa which caused providentially few casualties.

Powerful words

When the Sheffield that was sunk entered service in 1975 *Navy News* announced that though she was only half the size of her predecessor her scientific armoury made her "potentially more effective than a Second World War battleship".

Her electronic equipment could control any engagement, the official publication boasted, and her Sea Dart missile-defence system had greater capability than any in the world. "Performance, power and punch put HMS Sheffield among the leaders of the world's fighting ships", the article said. It is a most unhappy epitaph.

A prize too late

From a more optimistic stage in the Falklands crisis comes this sea-salts' limerick composed by officers of HMS Sheffield and entered by them on behalf of their commanding officer, Captain Sam Salt, in April's Harris Tweed limerick competition:

"On the Falklands the Argentines sat,
Said Maggie, "We cannot have that",
When the fleet hove in sight,
They were all put to flight
By Sam Salt in his Harris Tweed hat!"

The limerick was signed by three of the ship's senior officers.

They added that Captain Salt's hat size was 6¾ "and if by good fortune this should be judged a winning entry, it would be appreciated if the hat could be dispatched as soon as possible so that the intentions expressed in the limerick may be carried out."

The entry was judged a winner. The hat was sent on Tuesday, only hours before Sheffield was struck.

THE TIMES DIARY

Our unemployed have missed a bike they might have jumped on. A young unemployed blacksmith in Christiana, Denmark, has built up a thriving business within a year, reproducing the Dursley-Pedersen bicycles famous in Britain before the First World War. The Dursley-Pedersens were the invention of a Dane, Mikael Pedersen, but manufactured by R. A. Lister and Co. at Dursley in Gloucestershire. Their advantages over contemporary "safety" machines were lightness and comfort, enhanced by a saddle which took the form of a string and canvas hammock slung between the front and back forks.

Few of the bikes sold in Denmark, where Pedersen died a pauper in an old people's home in 1929, but the Danish output of reproductions is already up to 300 a year.

Lucky call

Today I offer a little more colour from my trip to Togo. A visit to the Ghanaian border revealed that the local population pour into Togo to escape their own troubled economy, shopping for everything from soap to cigarettes in a sprawling street market established for their benefit. The market's money changers will also exchange almost any currency, usually at favourable rates.

A mosque can be a primitive affair, made of breeze blocks and corrugated iron, but a colleague who tried to pray in it found there was nothing jerry-built about the mullah's convictions and got a ferocious lecture on religious propriety.

In the fetish market hundreds of dead birds, lizards and snakes lie warmly festering in the sun, alongside tortoise shells, sheep's skulls and piles of less identifiable bones. PHS was appropriately offered a telephone fetish, a piece of wood with some resemblance to the instrument, which the stallholder assured me would ensure good luck on my journey if I whispered into it. The devil-may-care attitudes of the local taxi-drivers persuaded me to do just that.

Parting shot

The Victoria and Albert Museum is wondering which Hindu god it has offended. Shortly after the Indian Heritage exhibition of Mughal art opened, it was visited by an Indian religious fanatic carrying a flaring censer who declared that the show was sacrilegiously displaying religious objects in a secular setting.

When he was ejected he told the attendant: "I put a curse on your chief. I curse the exhibition."

Within days the V & A's chief warden had sprained his ankle, and on Tuesday a visitor to the exhibition fell through the floor. Though she was not hurt, the show had to be temporarily closed.

Star-struck

Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, has the stars on his side in fending off tongue-in-cheek attacks from members of the European Parliament over the horoscope he commissioned last November from the French astrologist, Elizabeth Teissier du Cros.

He adapted Shakespeare to answer Janey Buchan, Labour MEP for Glasgow. "The fault, honourable member, is not in the stars but in ourselves, that we are underlings", he has told her.

And assuring the Conservative MEP for Bristol, Richard Cottrell, that there could be no heavenly answer to Europe's problems, Thorn quoted a proverb: "The man who gazes at the stars is at the mercy of the puddles in the road."



Big scorers

While Kent's 616 for six declared against Oxford University sent cricket statisticians scurrying to discover that a county team had not scored over 600 runs since 1949, the tally shrinks when compared with other first-class matches.

Victoria, which scored 1059 against Tasmania in Melbourne in 1922-23, punished New South Wales for 1107 at the same ground four seasons later. Hutton's 364 against Australia at the Oval helped to a total of 903 for seven declared, the highest ever made in this country. Hutton's county, Yorkshire, hold the record outside Test matches — 887 against Warwickshire at Birmingham in 1896.

First collection

My former editor, William Rees-Mogg today publishes his first handsome catalogue of the stock of his antiquarian bookshop, Pickering & Chatto, which moved to Pall Mall in March.

As anybody who knows his predilections would guess, it is particularly strong in eighteenth-century Eng. Lit. Rare treasures such as the first edition of *Tristram Shandy* and the 1557 edition of Sir Thomas *More's Workes* have been rebound in the Pickering house style of olive or dark green straight grained morocco, with, on the spine, William Pickering's own version of the Aldine Anchor and Dolphin device.

In his foreword Rees-Mogg reassures his customers: "I am an active proprietor and my wife is an active director." How different, how very different from the hurly-burly of life in our own dear Street of Shame.

Rail in vain

I have bad news for readers who have complained to me that Apsley House's fine wrought-iron gates and railings at Hyde Park Corner have been painted lurid green. They are going to stay that way, because that is how the first Duke of Wellington originally liked them.

The colour, which I much prefer to the former prosaic black, does sit a little uncomfortably with the harsher modern green used on neighbouring street furniture. It is authenticated by the Victoria and Albert Museum, which is supervising restorations for the Department of the Environment.

In the 18th and early 19th centuries London was a more colourful place partly because it was the fashion to paint railings brightly. If they next decide to paint the railings along Constitution Hill bright blue, I shall not complain, though you might.

PHS

onald Butt
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WILLING THE MEANS

Strategy, as Mr Pym told the Commons yesterday, must be seen as a whole. It is not a diplomatic solution to the Falklands crisis that we want; nor an economic solution, nor a military solution. It is a solution; and we are having to use all three means to achieve it. What weight any one of those means is given at any time depends on the circumstances, and the circumstances depend on many factors outside our control. Nothing that has yet occurred *in this crisis can justify the* accusation against the Government that it is seeking a military, and only a military solution. Argentina, on the other hand, has by its behaviour shown that it has no great interest in diplomacy, so that diplomatic means have so far not achieved very much except under the additional stimulus of military pressure. Moreover, the economic means, though long on declaration and intention, are woefully short on immediate effect — and even shorter now that some fair weather friends in the EEC are considering lifting their sanctions almost before they had imposed them.

The solution we seek is the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Island. That has become paramount in the short term, since no other medium or longer term permutation about sovereignty, administration, interim arrangements, or self-determination has any meaning *without it. There has been no* sign that such a withdrawal is likely through diplomacy. The sad and painful conclusion must be that such a withdrawal, or a better inclination to negotiate such a withdrawal, can only be made more likely by *military* pressure.

The purpose of British military strategy has therefore been to secure this withdrawal, with tactics at all times conditioned by the doctrine of *minimum* force. That involved imposing a quarantine round the Islands, not only to prevent the invading forces from being further strengthened after the supply and resupply of the last four weeks, but also to *emphasise that the invasion* and occupation is an unnatural and illegal state of affairs, which must therefore be temporary, and soon terminated.

The quarantine at sea and in the air - the total exclusion zone - has to be maintained. All British action so far has clearly been taken to achieve that objective, and to protect our forces against attacks intended to prevent them from achieving it. This has meant defending ourselves against attack, and, as Mr Nott observed yesterday, it would be inconceivable that the Government's rules of engagement for commanders inhibited them from such defensive action, as, for instance, was required in the engagement with the General Belgrano.

In the course of defending our zone we have inflicted casualties against our attackers, and suffered them. Suddenly the whole atmosphere of the crisis has changed. The flag waving and the fanfare are no longer part of the fun. It is a sad reflection on the television age that violence of all kinds assumes a kind of plasticity - an unrealness - which tends to immunise us from the idea of violence, but not from its awful reality when that *breaks out on the television* screen. Thus the studio discussions, the sea charts and the sand tables, all have a reassuring feeling to them which is only belied by the dark horror of maimed bodies floating helplessly on mountainous and icy seas. These are the pictures which never come until it is too late.

This shock came upon the House of Commons yesterday and the night before as the details of British casualties were announced. It will percolate more widely to the public, though whether the same sense of shock is reflected in voting patterns at today's local elections will only be evident when the results are declared.

There is a sense in which the age of deterrence and the abolition of conscription have deprived the British people of the means to understand the facts of their own security. Deterrence is not a state of affairs which can be secured on the cheap; and the cost *cannot just be financial*. Yet for 25 years the British people have been lulled by their leaders into willing the ends of deterrence — peace — without willing the means, which are a continuous involvement in, and possible *sacrifice for, the cause of* peace.

Until 1968 no year had passed since the war in which a British serviceman had not died for his country; there was only a twelve month lull. In the Mau Mau emergency 26 men died, in Suez 17, in Borneo 62 (including gurkhas), in the Malayan emergency 525. Since troops were sent to Northern Ireland in 1969 351 regular servicemen have died and another 122 members of the Ulster Defence Regiment. We are now faced with casualties in the South Atlantic. Our task force was sent there for a purpose, not just to assist diplomacy by looking nice on television screens and sounding nice in politicians' speeches. It was sent there *to do a dangerous job*, since danger is its business. It is too late now to regret the discovery that violence begets violence, and that we may all have to suffer in the struggle to see that violence does not get an undue reward.

If the task force had been sent out to the Falklands with a limited casualty label stuck on its sterns, what would that figure have been, one? two? twenty? thirty? three hundred? These figures are not calculable, any more than they were when Britain undertook other security commitments at home or abroad. The defence of vital interests, be they principles, citizens, or sovereignty, cannot be so precisely and actuarially assessed if it is to *have any real validity* as a basis of national policy.

The question now is: how does the Government proceed from here? The first necessity is to continue our attempts to secure a total exclusion zone against the attacks of Argentine aircraft and ships. This may mean a contraction in the perimeter of the zone, to provide fewer chances for Argentine attack by mainland-based aircraft. But the zone must clearly be kept intact, and made more secure in time *for the arrival of the land* forces within the next two weeks. At that stage, if there has been no break through in negotiations, the Government will have to establish and augment a land presence in the Islands. Of that there can be no doubt.

But there may have been negotiations by then. Mr Pym yesterday spoke favourably about the prospect of a trusteeship status for the Falklands Islands under *United Nations auspices*. The House, or most of it, felt reassured at this prospect at the end of the negotiating process; but it is that process itself which still baffles statesmen.

Whatever longer term arrangement can be made for the Islanders' security there are certain factors which constitute an irreducible minimum to the British position. The first is that nothing can be done without a preliminary Argentine withdrawal, and no negotiations entered into which do not provide for that withdrawal. The second is that the question of British sovereignty against the Argentine claims cannot be conceded or negotiated; it can only be frozen pending judicial decision. The third is that the Islanders' views and wishes must be fully respected in the final settlement. After this invasion, it is inconceivable that they would opt for, or could be pressured into, accepting either Argentine sovereignty or any type of Argentine control.

So we are back in a difficult phase of our strategy to achieve a solution which is consistent with those principles, as with the overriding principle that illegal acts of international violence must not be condoned or compromised with. The basis of strategy is the struggle for *freedom of action*. The invasion pinned us down, and pressurised us into accepting it. Our response has restored our freedom to challenge the invasion and has prevented it being accepted by the Islanders, by the British nation as a whole, even by the world community. That freedom of action for our own people, for *all people — that freedom* — must remain our objective.

DOCK THREAT ONLY DEFERRED

Through all the recent months of rising unemployment and closing factories, one group of workers has survived in perfect security. Registered dock workers are virtually immune from lay-off or dismissal, and if the company that employs them shuts down other employers in the same port are obliged to find jobs for them, whether or not there is any work for them to do. To relieve the gross overmanning that inevitably results, terms for voluntary severance are so attractive that more than 4,500 out of a labour force of 20,000 accepted them last year, in spite of all the uncertainties of life in the world outside the dock gate.

It is this comfortable state of affairs that the dockers would like to compel the Government to extend to the *smaller ports which were left* out of the statutory National Dock Labour Scheme in 1976. A soft answer from the Government has led the negotiators to put off a clash which would inevitably be profoundly damaging to the economy. But the threat is only deferred: the Government will hardly be able to look favourably on a proposal which even the Labour government flinched from as too radical. Short of naval blockade, no surer mean can be imagined of hurrying the ports outside the scheme into the same kind of malaise that afflicts most of the ports that are members. The scheme, and the restrictive practices that go with it, are not exclusively to blame for the dismal performance of the ports involved. London and Liverpool, Bristol and the Clyde, *would in any case* have suffered sharply for geographical and technological reasons in the past few years. But the extra burden of overmanning and the reluctance of the labour force to adapt to new methods of cargo handling developed by our competitors across the Channel have hastened the decline.

Felixstowe, the most successful of the non-scheme ports, has risen from small beginnings to seventh place nationally in terms of tonnage. This is partly because of its favourable position for the growing trade with the EEC, but the greater flexibility of its handling methods has been a more important factor. With some goods it can undercut the Port of London by 20 per cent. *In the* many much smaller ports the inflexibility and bureaucracy of the scheme's rules would be even more damaging to competitiveness. Although earnings at Felixstowe are slightly lower than the average, expansion has made it possible to raise productivity without causing redundancies, and even the high rewards of scheme membership have not induced its workers to show much eagerness to join.

For all their protection, registered dockers cannot look on the withering of their home ports entirely without misgivings. Major gains in productivity have been belatedly agreed both on Merseyside and in Hull in recent months. Dockers can claim that the scheme, introduced *to end the harsh exploitation* of casual labour before the war, has made it possible for the labour force to shrink from 80,000 in 1947, when the scheme began, to 18,000 today. Since the pact which followed the national dock strike ten years ago, the contraction has accelerated at relatively small cost in stoppages. The advance of containerization is expected by some observers to make a further drop to the 10,000 necessary by 1984.

Dockers have been pressing intermittently since 1976 for the extension of the scheme to other ports and to container depots within five miles of a registered port — the TGWU threatened industrial action over the latter only last May. The dockers claim that Felixstowe enjoys an unfair advantage by avoiding the levy paid by member ports to finance the scheme, and that its success harmfully heightens the tendency of business to slip away from ports in the north and west. If there is any substance in the first argument, it can be met without imposing the full burden of the scheme on Felixstowe. The second simply identifies the effects of the inefficiency that the scheme has inflicted on members. It is worth paying a *certain price* for peace in the industry, and the price of the dock labour scheme is already very heavy. Hobbling successful ports to allow the unsuccessful ones to catch up would be far too high an additional price.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Defence priorities 'lie with Nato'

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton

Sir, It appears from his laboured attempt to defend Mr Nott's disastrous defence policy that David Watt (feature, April 30) shares the Defence Secretary's almost total inability to understand what Mr Watt miscalls "European priorities". There are, *of course, no such priorities* for Britain, or any other European power, which belongs to the Nato Alliance.

Nato's priorities have led her Majesty's Government of both political parties, with the unanimous approval of all our Nato allies, so to order our military contribution that Britain has, for *25 years*, provided *70* per cent of the Nato maritime forces on the Eastern Atlantic, Norwegian and North Seas. This has absorbed 10 per cent of our defence budgets.

No other ally, including the United States, can replace these highly efficient and specialized forces which Mr Nott announced last June would be cut by a third. He has since compounded this folly by announcing that naval manpower would be cut by 15 per cent and the vital dockyard support for the whole fleet by about 25 per cent.

It is a palpable illusion to suppose that any money saved by this major and irreplaceable reduction in Nato's maritime defences (upon which any successful land/air operations in Europe wholly depend) can be usefully employed, as Mr Watt puts it, "to protect (further) north-west Europe, and most of all these islands." For no less than 40 per cent of our defence budget we are now providing just 10 per cent of the allied forces deployed in Germany.

Any increment which could be paid for by even half the navy vote would increase these forces by perhaps one armoured division and one squadron of Tornado aircraft.

Does anybody, except Mr Nott (and Mr Watt), suppose that this would really make any difference at all to the Soviet perception of our conventional deterrent or the nuclear threshold?

None of these hard facts has anything to do with a preoccupation with historic delusions of maritime grandeur, or with an attempt "to restore large global capabilities". It is, nevertheless, certain that had the humiliating seizure of the Falklands occurred after the Defence Secretary's ill conceived intentions had taken effect, no military option would have been available to the Government.

It is equally certain that no other country, including the super-powers, could have sailed this "rapid deployment force" so quickly or so smoothly. Indeed, the brilliant professional efficiency with which the navy and the dockyards mounted this *operation contrasts starkly with the amateur blunders by successive governments which made it necessary.*

It is devoutly to be hoped that wiser counsels will now prevail, and that a wiser man will soon be charged with reordering our defence priorities to accord realistically with our Nato obligations.

This would, as an important bonus, enable us to continue to play the part for which history and aptitude make us particularly suitable, in deterring all aggression whether within or outside the Nato area.

I am, and remain, Sir,
your obedient servant,
HILL-NORTON,
King's Mill House.
South Nutfield, Surrey.
May 1.

From the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry

Sir, May I repeat a proposal I made in the House of Commons over 10 years ago? Regrettably, it fell on mainly deaf ears then, but the Falklands crisis makes it more obviously pertinent and urgent now.

It was for the creation of a South Atlantic Treaty Organization (SATO) or else for the extension of NATO to cover the entire Atlantic, together with suitable bases. The Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Simonstown are good examples.

Quite apart from the long-term significance of mineral and other resources in Antarctica, most of the free world depends upon the movement of shipping, including oil super-tankers, around the capes. Argentinian aggression *demonstrates the extreme vulnerability* of these trade routes and that NATO defences could be as easily by-passed today as the Maginot line in 1940. We must not let a relatively minor independent dictatorship distract us from the far greater menace of those striving for global dictatorship of the Communist variety.

Because many Central and South American states could be unreliable allies, through their proneness to unstable undemocratic regimes or their flirtation with Cuba, and because most European countries are even more dependent upon oil imports than we are, there is a good reason for their direct participation in a new SATO or ATO.

For too long we have dithered over the Falkland Islands and dependencies. Now, I suggest, is the time to plan their future, following the withdrawal of Argentine forces, in the context of global strategy and take positive action jointly with our true friends in Europe, Canada and the United States.

Yours faithfully,
BUCCLEUCH,
Drumlanrig Castle,
Thornhill,
Dumfries-shire.
May 2.

East Timor invasion

From Lord Avebury and others

Sir, The speed with which the governments of Europe have acted in concert to apply economic, political, and military sanctions against the Argentinian Government since its illegal occupation of the Falkland Islands is remarkable. It merits comparison with their response to a recent and very similar military occupation of another European colony.

Like Argentina, the military Government of Indonesia invaded the Portuguese colony of East Timor, in December, 1975. Since then, as you noted in your editorial, "Horror in East Timor" on February 24, "it is estimated that more than 100,000 people have died, either directly as a result of military operations or from consequent famine and disease, out of a population of only about 670,000". They were all, by law, Portuguese colonial subjects.

The Timorese have repeatedly pleaded for sanctions against Indonesia, as have the Portuguese, but none has been forthcoming in six and a half years of brutal war. Indeed, governments such as our own have assisted the Indonesian military by supplying them with aircraft to facilitate their illegal occupation, repeatedly condemned by the United Nations.

The invasions are analogous but the European response exhibits a clear example of double standards. In the case of the Falkland Islands, it is firmly stated that a country must be supported against an illegal invader and that a people's right to self-determination must be upheld. In the case of East Timor, these rights are apparently expendable, as is the country's population.

As world opinion is being *mobilized to support the* Falkland Islanders, we reaffirm the conclusion you drew about East Timor that a "solution based on negotiations and the free choice of the inhabitants is urgently needed and the international community, particularly those countries which have close economic and military ties with Indonesia, including Britain, should make much more serious effort to achieve one".

Yours faithfully,
AVEBURY,
FENNER BROCKWAY,
B C BUTLER,
BOB EDWARDS,
RUSSELL KERR,
ALF LOMAS,
JOAN MAYNARD,
DOROTHY M NEEDHAM,
JOSEPH NEEDHAM,
STAN NEWENS,
8a Treport Street, SW18.

Hanratty case

From Professor Terence Morris

Sir, In the course of his article which you published on April 27, Mr Nicholas Fairbairn makes two serious errors of fact. These are especially surprising when they are made by a former law officer of the Crown.

He says "... look at the case of Hanratty. He unintentionally shot Michael Gregsten when he turned suddenly in the car." "... after Gregsten's death he raped Valerie Storie at gun point and emptied his gun into her body in order to eradicate her evidence ...".

James Hanratty was convicted at Bedford Assizes on February 17, 1962, of the capital murder of Michael Gregsten. The trial which incidentally lasted 21 days established a record in English legal history for a murder trial. It was no part of the Crown's case that he *unintentionally* shot Gregsten; had it been otherwise the indictment could not have been for capital murder. The victim was shot twice in the head at point-blank range; so close in fact that the entry and exit wounds could only be distinguished by the closest observation.

As to the matter of rape, that was *never proceeded with*. Had it been it might have been extremely difficult for the Crown to persuade the jury to convict. These are detailed matters with which one would have expected a lawyer interested in the question of capital punishment to be familiar. (Two important books have been written on the Hanratty case).

Quite apart from this there are very serious questions arising from the evidence of identification that cast grave doubt upon Hanratty's guilt. Ironically, if the trial had proceeded under inquisitorial rather than accusatorial rules, some of these doubts could have been before the jury.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE MORRIS,
Professor of Social Institutions
in the University of London,
The London School of Economics
and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.

Women in the ministry

From Dr J.M. Court

Sir, The Warden of Latimer House speaks of logic (letters, April 27). The logic of his position seems to be that priesthood is a masculine role which is "faked" by the ordination of women. But that is the essential question.

The Anglican churches agreed "to respect each other's discipline in this matter." While this must mean that those who *do* ordain women should not force them on those who don't, should it not also mean that those who *don't* are prepared to recognise that those who do actually know what they are doing?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. COURT,
Faculty of Humanities,
Keynes College,
The University,
Canterbury, Kent.
April 27.

War, the breakdown of politics

From Professor Bernard Crick

Sir, Those who think of themselves as purely practical often make huge and uncritical assumptions and pluck deadly principles from stale air.

War is not an extension of diplomacy by other means, as Clausewitz taught. Rather, as Hannah Arendt suggests, viol*ence is the breakdown of political* power, not its extension. "Power", she said, "is acting in concert", presumably acting with and upon one's friends and allies, not going it alone out of pride or miscalculated strength. The worst thing about violence, quite apart from killing people, is that its effects are so unpredictable and uncontrollable.

Violence can be justified if, among other conditions, its means are proportional to the ends and if these ends are clear and realizable. With the sinking of the Belgrano and now of the Sheffield we have lost any proportionality and the aims have never been made clear beyond "punishing aggression" or "getting the Argentine out", which everyone knows to be only part of a settlement.

In politics and diplomacy one's hand is not always shown, but in war if the aims are not clear, not merely is justification prejudiced but also control of the actual combatants.

What are the official aims? We too seem to have made a non-negotiable, nationalistic god of (if it is still any use at all) the narrowly legal doctrine of sovereignty which may define what one may do but does not define what one can or should do.

Invocation of "sovereignty" as a principle actually limits our power by tying our hands in politics and diplomacy. In terms of "sovereignty" the problem is, like Northern Ireland, insoluble; but there are times when we actually have more collective power without sovereignty, as the formation of the EEC shows.

"The interests of the Falkland islanders" is more promising, if taken, indeed, alongside our own real interests and those of the Argentinians. Edmund Burke, speaking of the doctrine of sovereignty, cried out to Lord North in his great speech "On *Conciliation with America*", "I care not if you have a right to make them miserable, have you not an interest to make them happy?" We can hardly make even the Falkland islanders happy by atavistic routes of patriotic death when our last shreds of power lie in our reputation for diplomatic and political skill.

Real power lay in working with our allies in concert, as through the EEC and by mounting pressure on the USA to control its other allies, not in a hollow show of strength that has only exposed (a) our lack of it and (b) *the inherent unpredictability of* violence.

It is both morally wrong and political folly to bluff and gamble with people's lives.

Yours sincerely,
BERNARD CRICK,
Department of Politics and
Sociology,
Birkbeck College,
Malet Street, WC1.
May 5.

From Mr Anthony Ramsay

Sir, As the storm gathers in the South Atlantic and within the two countries contending for the islands there, we can bear in mind that, *alongside all the* factors that have gone to make the situation what it currently is, there always remains at the same time the option of peace.

Having delivered a series of military blows to Argentina, it is possible for us to withdraw our forces from the immediate area at *any time, to indicate that the* search for a settlement means more to us than a military victory.

Now that the junta can be seen to have committed themselves, and the nation they presently govern, upon a course of opposing British arms despite the latter's superiority, there is presented the likelihood of growing bloodshed.

The political situation in Argentina is not of the happiest, either in regard to individual political freedom or, as now, over access to important public information. There is also the possibility that the occupation of the Falklands occurred as a national attention diverter. Thus the internal difficulties of the country may be the cause of the international crisis.

If, however, Argentina is in any real sense a divided nation, it may be out of place to moralize our way into a position of inflexibility over her aggression upon the islands. This would be unreasonable on our part. This is not to advocate immediate withdrawal by Britain from the seas around the islands, but rather to point out that this peaceable option, as a matter of fact, always remains with us and should not be lost sight of at whatever stage. Inflexibility, resolve, failure of nerve and discretion are names which can blind us to this important fact. Otherwise a true and just peace becomes all too elusive if striven for solely by might of arms.

Part of the same nightmare is finding oneself hemmed in by considerations linked only to the logic of a closed situation, sure sign of which is repeatedly meditating "how we got ourselves in this fix". A nightmare is indeed under way and we should therefore take care to see it as such before becoming completely *swamped in it.*

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY RAMSAY,
6 Redcliffe Square, SW10.
May 4.

From Mr W. O. Cole

Sir, Now, surely, the time has come for our Government to *assume the diplomatic initiative* in the Falklands crisis.

It should do this, first, because it, as potential "victor", should be magnanimous. Secondly, in a spirit of realism it should realize that for General Galtieri to sue for peace would be to guarantee his deposition and perhaps death.

He must, therefore, continue to fight. If he is replaced it will probably cause greater political unrest in South America and possibly a communist government in the Argentine, to the disadvantage of Britain.

If politics is the art of the possible we might offer the following realistic terms:

1 Argentinian sovereignty in the year 2000.
2 UN trusteeship in the interim.
3 British administration to 1990 followed by a joint British-Argentinian council to 2000.
4 British-Argentinian cooperation in the economic development of the Falklands and in the resettlement of any islanders who wish to leave before 1990.

These suggestions may not be instantly attractive, but solutions which seek to preserve the status quo with an enlarged navy and 3,000 troops permanently stationed outside Port Stanley must *be rejected as illusory.*

When, after the crisis, we begin to apportion blame we will, I hope, exonerate Lord Carrington realizing that he was but following the policy of successive governments which failed to realize that Gibraltar, Belize, the Falklands and other outposts of empire must look to their future in Spain, Central America, and the Argentine, not in England.

This lesson I am sure the Falklanders have learned. Others, including ourselves, must.

Yours faithfully,
W. OWEN COLE,
134 Worcester Road,
Chichester.
May 4.

Parliamentary spies

From Mr Philip F. Nind

Sir, With activities in the South Atlantic moving towards outright war, we must assume the possibility of secret sessions in the House of Commons.

By contrast with the Second World War, the "spying of strangers" must now take into account all the electronic equipment installed for the broadcasting of parliament. May we be assured that an infallible cut-off *point has already been installed?*

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP NIND,
Travellers' Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
May 4.

Worship and doctrine

From the Reverend K.N. Bowler

Sir, With reference to Mr Frank Field's letter (April 16), I would be glad if he could go on and describe "the advantages (to the Church of England) of being the established Church".

After 20 years as a parish priest I *have been trying to* discover them.

If he thinks it is the funds and the power of the Church Commissioners, I think he is mistaken. Our inability to deploy men and money where they are needed rather than where there is a building is but one example. The legal rights given to any parishioner irrespective of faith, belief, or practice means that many parish clergy spend too much time with non-church members and non-essentials.

We have reduced Christian sacraments to the level of social tradition, or at best "folk religion" for many people. They provide few pastoral opportunities. The truth is that establishment, and I support it, offers more to the state and social fabric than it offers the Church.

The established Church strengthens the position of the monarchy with the obligations placed *on the Archbishop* for coronation and other official tasks all to the benefit of the state. The established Church identifies one area of life that is specifically English and gives a focus to the local community. How often are we told by politicans that "the Church can help in this area"? This usually means a service that someone will do for nothing.

Few of us would cling to the establishmment for the Church's sake. Any attempt by Parliament to start interfering with matters of worship, belief and doctrine will lead to disestablishment.

As it is, we in the Church of England lead a double life; the established church role with all the trappings *where membership* is by accident of birth; and the worshipping church, the faithful gathered together week by week, committed in worship and Christian living.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH BOWLER,
St. Mary's Vicarage,
9 Hatton Road,
Bedfont,
Feltham.
April 17.

Name dropping

From Mr Jack Hobbs

Sir, Mr John Cope (April 28) includes my *name* in his list of allegedly un-Christian names. He may like to know, Sir, that I was christened Jack in church, and that this is the name on my birth certificate.

In addition, when signing my name (in Latin) on my College roll, there was no objection to the form "Jackus".

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
JACK HOBBS,
1 Clevedon,
Sid Road,
Sidmouth,
Devon.
April 28.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 5: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Victoria Station, Manchester, in the Royal Train this morning and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Greater Manchester (Sir William Downward), the Chairman of the Greater Manchester County Council (County Councillor Dr Joe Taylor) and the Lord Mayor of the City of Manchester (Councillor Hugh Lee).

Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, visited the new Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Industry at Liverpool Road, toured an Exhibition and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Afterwards Her Majesty and His Royal Highness walked through the permanent set location of Granada Television's programme *Coronation Street* and, escorted by the Chairman (Sir Denis Forman), met members of the cast and production staff.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were then received at Manchester Town Hall by the Lord Mayor.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to the John Rylands University Library, where The Queen opened the new extension by unveiling a commemorative plaque.

The Duke of Edinburgh met members of the Cotton and Allied Trades Joint Committee

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, later honoured the Chancellor of Manchester University (the Duke of Devonshire), the Chairman of the County Council and the Lord Mayor with her presence at luncheon in the Whitworth Hall.

This afternoon The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Manchester University Department of Urology at Withington Hospital and met members of the Hospital and University Staffs, Research Staff and Students, escorted by Professor Norman Blacklock (Department of Urology) and Professor John Evanson (Dean of the Medical School).

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness later left Manchester International Airport in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

The Countess of Airlie, Mr Robert Fellowes, Mr Warwick Hutchings and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this morning opened and toured the new Art Centre at Canford School, Wimborne Minster and was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Dorset (Colonel Sir Joseph Weld).

Her Royal Highness was later entertained at luncheon at Dorset Institute of Higher Education and afterwards laid the Foundation Stone of he College of Art and Design, Dorset Institute of Higher Education, Wallisdown, Poole.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, this afternoon visited the Bryanston Group at the Deer Park Riding Stables, Whitecliffe, Hill Street, Blandford.

Her Royal Highness, attended by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 5: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited the Young Women's Christian Association Central Club to mark its Golden Jubilee.

Lady Jean Rankin and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 5: *The Princess Margaret*, Countess of Snowdon this evening opened the new Theatre Royal in Plymouth.

Her Royal Highness was later entertained at Dinner at the Council House by the Lord Mayor of Plymouth (Councillor Ralph Morrell).

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lady Anne Tennant.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 5: The Duke of Gloucester this morning opened the new Administrative Headquarters of the Ramsbury Building Society, Marlborough. In the afternoon His Royal Highness visited Seymour Court, Burhage (Sheltered Housing Complex) and later opened Bartlett House, Ludgershall (—wiltshire County Council Home for Elderly People).

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this afternoon at the Annual Meeting of the Arab Women's Council at the Islamic Cultural Centre. In the evening Her Royal Highness as Patron of Counsel and Care for the Elderly fwas present at a Fashion Show organized by Marks and Spencer Ltd in aid of the Counsel at Fairfield Hall, Croydon.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

A memorial service for Dr Alfred Spinks will be held at St Margaret's, Wesminster, today at 11.30.

A memorial service for Mr Alfred Fairbank will be held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, today at noon.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr J. B. Martin is to be held in Exeter Cathedral on Saturday, May 8, at noon.



Mr Willie Carson, the jockey, yesterday after his marriage to Miss Elaine Williams, a farmer's daughter, at Chester register office. He later won one of the big races of the day at Chester, the Cheshire Oaks.

Forthcoming marriages

Captain A. M. Nall and Miss C. J. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Alexander Michael Nall, The Royal Green Jackets, younger son of Sir Michael and Lady Nall, of Hoveringham Hall, near Nottingham, and Caroline Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Robinson, of Little Court, Blagdon, near Bristol.

Mr D. G. Coaten and Miss S Rekelj
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Coaten, of Weybridge Park, Weybridge, Surrey, and Sacha, only daughter of the late Mr Bernard Rekelj and of Mrs A Rekelj, of Pont Street, London, SW1.

Mr R. L. Constant and Mrs E. J. Lloyd
The marriage will take place shortly between Richard Constant, of Crewkerne, Somerset, and Elizabeth Lloyd (nee Blamey), of Wooburn Green, Buckinghamshire.

Mr T. N. Jordan and Miss J. K. J. Maugham
The engagement is announced between Terry, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Jordan, of Macclesfield, Cheshire, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Maugham, of White Gables, Prestbury, Cheshire.

Mr W. R. A. Densham and Miss C. Winkley
The engagement is announced between Roger, elder son of the late Mr John Densham and Mrs Dorothy Densham, of Martin, Hampshire, and Clare, younger daughter of Captain W. R. M. Winkley, of Gable House, Wootton Rivers, Marlsborough, Wiltshire.

Mr W. R. Earp and Miss J. C. Woodhouse
The engagement is announced between William, only son of Mr and Mrs Leonard Earp, of Priory Farmhouse, Willmington, and Jennifer, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Coventry Woodhouse, of Summerfield, Square Drive, Kingsley Green, near Haslemere.

Mr R. L. Fookes and Miss A. L. C. Barker
The engagement is announced between Robert Lawrence, eldest son of the Rev R. M. and Mrs Fookes of The Vicarage, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire and Alice Louise Charlotte, daughter of Mr and Mrs George Barker, of The Rookery, Wilby, Eye, Suffolk.

Mr A. J. Macpherson and Miss A. L. F. Barford
The engagement is announced between Angus John, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. N. Macpherson, of Commonwood, Bearsted, Kent, and Anne, third daughter of Mr and Mrs E. M. Barford, of Snowdenham, Bramley, Surrey.

Princess opens new theatre in Plymouth

By Christopher Warman
Arts Correspondent

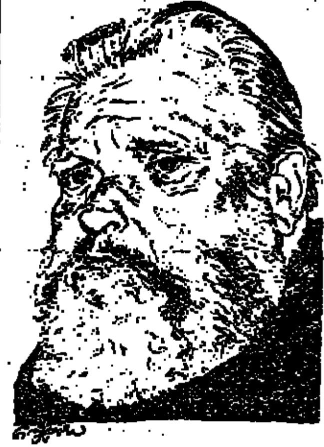
The new Theatre Royal, Plymouth, a £9m project which will give people in Devon and Cornwall for the first time the chance to see Britain's main opera and ballet companies regularly, was opened last night by Princess Margaret.

The theatre was financed by the local authority with the assistance of nearly £2m from the EEC regional development fund and £500,000 from the Arts Council.

"It is a vital link in the chain of major touring theatres throughout the country", Mr David Pratley, the Arts council's regional director commented yesterday.

As part of its policy to establish first-rate, large scale theatres to house opera, drama and dance touring, the Arts Council had made grants of £450,000 to the Palace Theatre, Manchester; £417,000 to the Birmingham Hippodrome; £150,000 to the Theatre Royal, Nottingham; £210,000 to the Empire Theatre, Liverpool; and £115,000 to the Grand Theatre, Leeds.

Birthdays today



Mr Orson Welles, the actor and director, who is 67

Sir John Arnold, 67; Air Chief Marshal Sir Walter Dawson, 80; Sir John Elliot, 84; Mr R. Fell, 61; Mr Stewart Granger, 69; Major-General J. Hamilton-Jones, 56; Sir Ronald Harris, 69; Mr K. G. Holden, 72; Sir Patrick Meaney, 57; Mr Alan Ross, 60; Rt Rev John Taylor, 53.

Latest wills

Mrs Pearl Weyl, of Golders Green, London, left estate valued at £334,407 net. After several small bequests she left £500 and a fifth of the residue each to the Jewish Blind Society, Home for Aged Jews, the Jewish Association for the Physically Handicapped, London, Shaare Zedak Hospital, Jerusalem, and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Lush, Mr George James of Fordingbridge, Hampshire £271,025

Pennycuick, Sir John, of Temple, London, former Vice-Chancellor, Chancery Division of the High Court £35,285

Robeson, Miss Joan Gwynedd, of Swindon £245,814

Woolmen's Company

The following have been elected officers of the Woolmen's Company for the ensuing year: Master: Mr Arthur Hollis; Upper Warden: Mr W. A. Hoadley; Under Warden: Mr R. E. Auld.

Memorial service

Viscount Chaplin
A memorial service for Viscount Chaplin was held yesterday at Chelsea Old Church. The Rev C. E. Leighton Thomson officiated. Mr Peter Myers read from "Afterwards" by Thomas Hardy "The Faerie Queene" by Edmund Spenser and from the works of Christina Rossetti. Among those present were:

Viscountess Chaplin (widow), Mr and the Hon Mrs B Curran (son-in-law and daughter), the Hon Christine Chaplin (daughter), Mr Michael Luke (son-in-law), Miss Oenone Luke and Miss Cressida Luke (granddaughters), the Hon Mrs Niall Chaplin, Viscountess Chandos, Mr and Mrs Robert Wheatley.

Viscountess Sandon, the Hon Mrs Forbes Adam, the Dowager Lady Dashwood, Sir Martyn and the Hon Lady Beckett, Mr Charles Janson and the Countess of Sutherland, Mrs P Myers, Mr and Mrs James Lees-Milne, Mr Douglas Dryberg, Mr William Bell, Mrs W. Thomas, Prince Pless, Mrs Hugo Charteris, Mr and Mrs R Forbes Adam, Mr Burnet Pavitt, Mrs E Barker-Mill, Mr E B Boothby, Mr Oliver Davies, Mr John Arnis, Mrs J Vevers, Mr Ian Phillips, Miss M Weiner, Mrs P Catchpole, Miss H Hoare, Miss S Agnew, Miss J Jackson ("The Sunday Times"), Mrs Arthur Goodman and Mr Erasmus Barlow (also representing the President of the Zoological Society of London) with other members of the society.

Luncheon

Rotary Club of London
The president, Mr Douglas Smee, and members of the Rotary Club of London entertained Mrs Elizabeth Browning, chairman of the Association for All Speech Impaired Children, at luncheon at the Cafe Royal yesterday.

Royal Society of Medicine
Dr T. D. Whittet, president of the section of the History of Medicine, Royal Society of Medicine, accompanied by Mrs Whittet, was host yesterday at a dinner held at 1 Wimpole Street, after he delivered his presidential address at the annual meeting of the section. Among the guests were Dr and Mrs K. W. N. Palmer.

Dinners

Corporation of London
The Corporation of London gave a dinner at the Mansion House yesterday in honour of the Lord Mayor of Helsinki and Mrs Haskivi. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their escorts, received the guests. Among those present were:

Mr Gunnar Snells, Mr Harl Sormanen, the Finnish Ambassador and Mme Tollerman, the Norwegian Ambassador and Mrs Busch, Lord and Lady Auckland, Lord and Lady Kennet, Lord and Lady Greenhill of Harrow, Sir James and Lady Richards, Sir Peter and Lady Menzies, Sir Bernard and Lady Ledwidge, Sir Charles and Lady Troughton, Sir James and Lady Duncan, Sir John Burgh, Members of Parliament, members of the Finnish Embassy, representatives of Finland resident in London, and of the civil service, people having commercial and cultural connexions with Finland, aldermen, common councilmen and officers of the Corporation of London and their ladies.

Inner Temple
The Lord Chancellor was entertained at dinner by the Treasurer, Sir Alan Mocatta, and Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple last night, the Grand Day of Easter Term. Other guests included:

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Roskill; Sir John Megaw, Sir John Arnold, Treasurer of the Middle Temple and President of the Family Division, Lord Justice Kerr, Mr Justice Mustill, Sir William Baxter, Sir Folliott Sandford, Mr Justice Mars-Jones, Treasurer of Gray's Inn, Dr R H L Cohen, Mr Alexander Elkin, Mr N C Pearson, Mr Hilary Magnus, QC, Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, Mr Brian Brooke-Smith, Mr R N Carvalho, Mr A L J Diamond, QC, Mr Anthony Evans, QC, Mr J G Gordon, Mr K D Rubens, Mr Robin Shelbourne, Mr Robin Troughton and Rear-Admiral T B Homan, sub-treasurer.

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Electronic Engineering Association
Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, was guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Electronic Engineering Association held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Mr D. S. Barnes, president of the association presided.

Newspaper Society
The annual dinner of the Newspaper Society was held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr J. L. Barrons, president, accompanied by Mrs Barrons, was in the chair. Mr Patrick Neill, QC, Chairman of the Press Council, and Mrs Neill were the principal guests. Among those present were:

The Duke of Atholl, Lord and Lady McGregor of Durris, Lord and Lady Marsh, Sir Edward and Lady Pickering, Mr and Mrs G N D Cole, Mr and Mrs P W Barker, Mr and Mrs D Lowndes, Mr and Mrs C M Jeffrey, Mr and Mrs D Wyndham Smith, Mr and Mrs A McDonald and Prebendary and Mrs Dewi Morgan.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr John Stewart Hobhouse, QC, to be High Court judge on the *Queen's division in succession to* Mr Justice Mais, who has retired.

Mr Nicholas True to be a special adviser in the Department of Health and Social Security.

Mr J. F. Phillips, QC, to be chairman of the London Diagnostic and Imaging Centre, Harley Street.

Major-General E. A. Burgess to be Colonel Commandant, Royal Regiment of Artillery.

Colonel L. R. Cartwright is to be Deputy Colonel (Lancashire), The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Mr Peter Holwell to be clerk of the Court of London University.

Mr J. S. Roderick to be deputy clerk

Mrs Margaret Milner-Williams to be chairman of the Independent Schools Association Incorporated.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Begins Today! The Publishing Sensation of the Decade — Only in Moreover.

The story so far... Miles Kington, who runs a small column situated in a pretty, secluded part of *The Times*, receives a visit from a publisher who wishes him to serialize *The Wit and Wisdom of Henry Kissinger*. Under questioning, the publisher admits that the book consists merely of jokes taken from Mr Kissinger's interviews and broadcasts and therefore out of copyright, but insists that they are good enough for the column.

While mulling over this offer, Mr Kington receives a secret call from someone claiming to be called Desmond Morris, who has discovered the origins of the human sexual impulse. Apparently sex springs from the even more primitive urge to play football. Yes, apparently football came first. Amazing, isn't it? Anyway, it would tie in pretty well with the World Cup, especially if British supporters behave primitively. Well, think about it.

While he is thinking about it, a letter arrives from a freelance packager and publisher, pointing out that Moreover is probably the only column in British journalism which does not have a Sunday colour supplement. The packager tempts Kington with visions of a bright red and blue magazine called *Sunday Moreover*, to be launched in the autumn of 1982 at Kington's expense. There will be a fantastic opening party with Rod Stewart being flown in from the US and maybe Henry Cooper will be free to turn up for a moment, anyway, at the worst William Hickey will come along.

All this time, however, Kington is secretly in love with a book about Great Victorian Bicycling Accidents, shortly to be published by the little known Puncture Press and lavishly illustrated with black and white sketches and police reports of the time, and dreams of serializing it in his column, especially as the author is an old mate of his and needs the publicity. Not entirely bereft of a conscience, Kington realizes uncomfortably that his editor, agent, publisher, secretary and loved ones would be horrified if they knew of his irrational passion and would urge him to give up the suicidal liaison immediately.

Torn between those conflicting temptations, Kington goes downstairs in the block where he lives to empty his rubbish and there falls into conversation with a fellow tenant. This tenant, it seems, has just completed his first novel but cannot find a publisher, although the book is sensational. If only it could be serialized in a reputable newspaper column, or something. . . .

Agreeing in a weak moment to cast an eye over the manuscript, Kington flees back to his flat and locks himself in. He takes the phone off the hook, stuffs the letter box with Polyfilla, pours himself a stiff drink and settles dowd to watch television. He finds himself listening to a blistering attack on the press for stuffing newspapers full of extracts from new books. "Has British journalism come so low", rages one pundit, "that it cannot think of anything original to print?" He groans, switches off and goes straight to bed.

To be continued.

OBITUARY

LORD JANNER

Tireless champion of Jewish causes

Lord Janner, who died on May 4 at the age of 89, was for many years an active member of the House of Commons. Originally a Liberal and later as a member of the Labour Party, he had represented the Whitechapel and St George's division of Stepney and later West and North-West Leicester.

He was above all passionately concerned with the welfare of Jews. He was president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews from 1955 to 1956 — his son Greville Janner is the current president — and had been president of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland. He was knighted in 1961 and made a life peer in 1970. He was an intensely public-spirited man and was involved in something like a score of societies and groups not all with a Jewish flavour.

He was a well-known *figure in the legal and* commercial world, but he was best known in great Britain and abroad as a dominant personality for two or three decades as a layman of the Jewish community. More than anything else he was a loyal Jew by birth, tradition upbringing and practice, and his communal activities, especially from the early days of Nazi persecution in Germany, formed an outstanding contribution of sustained service to his fellow Jews, often at the cost of much misunderstanding and, at times, opposition:

From his twenties he had been a convinced and ardent Zionist, but his intense nationalism was in his case in complete accord with his profound religious convictions, so that there was *nothing* exceptional about the fact that while he was still pursuing his course as one of the best friends and defenders of the state of Israel which owed at least something for its establishment to his energies, he was also, coincident with it all, a principal figure on the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Probably because of his legal background and his philosophical training and outlook, Barnett Janner had the faculty, which was to prove so valuable during the course of his career, of reconciling conflicting elements, religious, racial and political, among the Jews of his own country, and to an extent scarcely less important beyond its borders.

His life within the modern community had seen the growing understanding and rapprochement in Britain between the community of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, and those of the Central and Eastern European immigrants

He stood for absolute orthodoxy in Jewish ritual practice, but he was friendly and indeed active in the movements which brought together Christians and Jews for ethical and moral service within the general community, and one more thing, not least, can be said of him, namely that as his material position advanced so also did his service and his generosity towards both Gentile and Jewish causes.

Barnett Janner was born at Barry, Glamorgan, on June 20, 1892, the son of the late Joseph and Gertrude Janner, and remained deeply interested in the educational and social life of the Principality. He was educated at the Barry County School, from which he went with a County Scholarship to the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire at Cardiff, and where he had a notable career, both scholastically and socially. He was president of the Students' Representatives Council, edited the University Magazine, graduated BA and, having read Law and served his articles in the City, he was, after service with the Royal Garrison Artillery during the First World War, admitted in 1919.

For a while he practised in Cardiff, where he became closely associated with the Liberal Party and one of its prominent speakers in the Southern Counties until he removed to London in the 1920s to pursue his professional career, and to enter more closely into national politics. At the same time his interests were extended from the law to finance and commerce, and when in 1931 he was returned as Liberal Member for the Whitechapel and St George's Division, he had become well-known in the British furniture industry,

Janner was precisely the right member for that division, with its large Jewish population, but at Westminster he was by no means a delegate, and his range of interest there stretched over housing, leasehold reform, workmen's compensation and international questions, as well as those specifically concerning his own people. He had won his seat as an Independent Liberal by the narrow majority of only a little over 1,000 in 1931, and it was not surprising that four years later he lost it, but within less than 12 months, and as a matter of no surprise to his friends, he joined the Labour Party, soon after which he was adopted as prospective candidate for the West Division of Leicester, which Harold Nicolson had won for National Labour shortly before, with the tenuous majority of 87. In the ultimate, Janner was out of Parliament for several years, but he returned at the General Election of 1945, having defeated both Harold Nicolson and his Liberal opponent, J. A. Kirby.

He continued to represent Leicester (after 1950 the North Western Division) until 1970.

At Westminster he will be remembered best for his persistent work on behalf of leasehold and rating reform in the wider sphere, but always as one of the most consistent and forthright representatives of his race, particularly whenever injustice and oppression were involved. He had seen at first hand on many visits the astonishing developments, constitutionally and materially, in the new State of Israel, for which he had loyally campaigned during more than 30 years before its birth, especially as chairman of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland over a considerable part of that time. He was also president of the Association of Jewish Friendly Societies, and was for six years vice-president of the Board of Deputies before succeeding to the senior office. He was vice-president of the Leasehold Reform Association, a member of the committee on Wage Earning Children, of the Society of Labour Lawyers, and he was honorary Rents Adviser to the Labour Party. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and he had a considerable appreciation, in which his wife shared, of beautiful furniture, and interior decoration. He was a freeman of the City of London and Leicester. He was also an honorary LLD of Leed's University.

Barnett Janner married in 1927 Elsie Sybil, a Justice of the Peace for London, and a well known social worker, the daughter of Joseph and Henrietta Cohen, and they had one son and one daughter. His son, Greville Janner, QC, is MP for Leicester West and his daughter is Lady Morris of Kenwood.

MR W. O. HAINES

Mr William Owen Haines, the chair manufacturer and timber grower, died on April 1, aged 80. Like his father before him he was a former Mayor of High Wycombe. His death brings to a close the century and a half of close involvement by the, mainly, Baptist and Methodist chair manufacturers in the leadership of the civic, artistic and religious life of that borough.

He was a grandson of Benjamin Cartwright, who founded the still trading firm of that name and supplied some of the earliest chairs to the London School Board and the Army, when it went to the Boer War. His father commenced trading just after the turn of the century and Will Haines, who had wanted to enter the Indian Civil Service, came from being head boy of the Royal Grammar School to join him in 1919.

The firm of Owen Haines and Son turned first to working with notable architects, where Haines's ability to "hold" a colour in his memory without sample board enabled him to work with Giles Gilbert Scott. In the 1930s slump they made hundreds of sets of reproduction chairs, using models and drawings from the Victoria and Albert Museum and the finest West Indies mahogany, and kept all their men at work, much of the output going to the United States.

The English furniture trade will remember him principally for three things. Firstly, the several millions of hand-polished heavy-seated chairs which he made his speciality and won continual reorders from the Admiralty, the Ministry of Works, the Metropolitan Police, the LCC and schools, colleges and churches. He was greatly amused to see many of these now being *sold* as "nineteenth century cottage furniture".

Secondly, the firm was probably unique in being largely self sufficient in the provision of beech from its own woods. Both father and son were skilled in the growing of beech butts for the industry, their advice was frequently sought and at one time they owned some 400 acres of prime hardwood woodlands.

Lastly, there were Mr Haines's "Old Men"; if old chairmakers wanted to work he kept men on into their 80s on the hours they felt able to do. He was a tax commissioner, the chairman of several schools to the day of his death, the past or present president or chairman of nearly every artistic and ecumenical activity in the borough and a Methodist local preacher and circuit steward. He was a man of the very highest moral and ethical standards.

He married Ethel, one of the nine daughters of Boaz Wooster, master chair maker, who died in 1976.

BARONESS ALIX DE ROTHSCHILD

A correspondent writes:

The death is reported on May 3 of Baroness Alix de Rothschild in Normandy, in her 71st year, perhaps the most distinguished member of that versatile family.

She was a woman of rare good looks, vibrant charm, gentle wit and profound sincerity, who inspired admiration and devotion in all who knew her. Perhaps Alix de Rothschild's outstanding quality was not her vivid imagination, nor even her unparalleled generosity, nor her deep understanding of the ills to which human flesh is heir, nor yet her almost disconcerting readiness to see the other fellow's point of view, but a forthright democratic spirit which ran through her life like a tough silver thread linking together her varied fields of activity — her friendship for artists and musicians, with whom she felt a great affinity and whom she assisted and promoted in a thousand different ways; her understanding and affection for the rural community which she fussed over and mothered for 30 years as Mayor of Reux; and the large family of 25,000 refugees and immigrant children she worked for passionately and zealously in Israel.

During the Second World War Alix de Rothschild returned to unoccupied France leaving her daughter in Argentina, to warn her husband of the impending takeover by the Germans which she rightly surmised only those in a neutral country outside Europe would be aware of. As a young widow she had previously escaped from Nazi Germany with one small child and only the clothes she stood up in. To return to Europe in 1940 was an act of dauntless courage. On arrival, she organized her own and her husband's escape via Morocco to the USA — Guy de Rothschild recrossing the Atlantic on arrival to join de Gaulle and the Free French in London. *Over this episode, as well as* many others, she displayed a delightful, almost naive modesty. The writer recalls with amusement her expression of complete bewilderment when at the end of a deeply moving "off-the-cuff" talk to a packed Zionist audience in Jerusalem, Ben Gurion, then Prime Minister of Israel, sprang onto the platform and with tears in his eyes exclaimed: "For that — for that, I must kiss you!"

She leaves a son, senior partner in Rothschild Fréres until the recent nationalization of the banks, a daughter, six grandchildren and one great grandson. She will be terribly missed. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the friend with whom she shared 25 happy and creative years.

DR FRED WRIGLEY

Dr Fred Wrigley, CBE, MRCS, LRCP, FPS, who retired as deputy chairman of the Wellcome Foundation Ltd. in 1974, died on April 29. He was 73.

Born in Manchester, he qualified as a pharmacist at Manchester University, to which he returned later to study medicine after holding a managerial post in industry. After qualification he held appointments at hospitals in the Manchester area.

He returned to industry in 1945 as director of clinical research with Roche Products. From 1952 to 1955 he was manager of Ciba Pharmaceuticals in Canada before returning to England to become general sales manager (medical) with the Wellcome Foundation. As a director of Wellcome from 1957, he held several posts related to sales and associated companies before becoming deputy chairman in 1967. He was made CBE in 1974.

After his retirement in 1974 Wrigley was consultant adviser, commercial policy and exports, to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, 1947-77; chairman, British Health-Care Export Council, 1976-79; chairman, United Medical Enterprises Ltd, 1978-79; and honorary consultant in health care industry to the British Technology Group (formerly NEB) from 1979.

He was, also, at various times, president of the Hunterian Society; chairman of the mid-Herts Hospital Management Committee; a member of the N.W. Regional Hospital Board; and a governor of University College Hospital and of the Royal Marsden Hospital. He was on the council of the Pharmaceutical Society, 1970-72.

He leaves a widow, Catherine Margaret, a son and daughter.

Television

Dramatic strength

Central's four-part series I Remember Nelson ended last night with a formidable piece of television. It dealt with the Battle of Trafalgar and, true to the style of the rest of the series, did so from a highly specific and cunningly oblique perspective.

We saw the action solely on the lower gun deck and through the eyes of one William Blackie, a gunner. Necessarily this involved a great deal of documentary clutter on the workings of the guns and the routine of *battle*, as well as a long succession of violent deaths and horrific maimings, the latter being dealt with by appropriately gruesome surgery and the former by tossing the corpses over the side. But the episode succeeded in moulding this seemingly random, bloody chaos and detailed historical recreation into entirely satisfying drama.

It did so by playing Blackie off against Nelson. Yet this was not a crude generals-against-infantry polemic — indeed the poor cannon-fodder were shown cheering their admiral with mystical fervour, their eyes gleaming with a sense that their pathetic conditions could be transcended. In addition Kenneth Colley's excellent Nelson, though indeed a study in arrogance, betrayed only a faltering grasp of his own greatness, a quality demonstrated not by his words but by his distracted, drawn features. He appeared to know that something made the whole affair absurd but he could not be sure precisely what.

Hugh Whitemore, the writer, began by ironically playing off Nelson's last will and testament before the battle against a lower deck deal should either of the partners die. He then moved through the blood of battle, through the dawning horror on the faces of the gunners and the powder monkeys, through the pale shattered features of the padre, finally to Nelson's distracted resignation after a sniper's bullet had shattered his spine. Only Nelson had not changed; he lay dying still obsessed with his duty, still baffled by his obsession.

Meanwhile Blackie has been wounded in the foot, and in his delirium struggles to a gun-port to see the sun. He passes Nelson at the moment of his death, attains the gun-port and sees only a pig swimming in the water before he is hit in the head. Whitemore concludes years later with Blackie in a home, his brain having been damaged by the shot. Victorian philanthropists visit and give him a sovereign in recognition of what he did for his country, but Blackie just turns to look, at last, at the sun.

Whitemore's — and indeed Central's — courage lay in avoiding the routine grind of a tele-drama-documentary. There was plenty of painstaking work by the props department but the creative hand was strong enough to subjugate their efforts to the demands of the imagination. For all the research in the world is as nothing without Whitemore and Colley's delicious touch of having Nelson recite all his symptoms with the eerie calm of a man whose mind is elsewhere.

Bryan Appleyard

Theatre

Shaw out of control

Dear Liar

Mermaid

Snug in his writing hut down the garden Shaw enjoyed flirtatious correspondence with a good many ladies, from Ellen Terry to Miss Hopeful Blue Eyes of Godalming; but the only one of these exchanges that ever yielded a play was his 40-year ding-dong with Mrs Patrick Campbell.

Unlike his other paper relationships, this one tells a story. Shaw glumly set himself down as a person to whom nothing ever happened, but something certainly happened between him and Mrs Pat. He first approached her in 1899, laid low with the illness from which he emerged a married *man. If Mrs Pat had* accepted his invitation and zoomed off to Hindhead to read for Cleopatra, Charlotte might have found herself in the role of Octavia. However, still reclining on the voluptuous laurels of Paula Tanqueray, she turned the uppity apprentice playwright down; and when they resumed contact, for the stormily farcical *Pygmalion* episode, it was as professional equals.

Not only that. Having missed his chance before, Shaw — then in his late fifties — moved in on her with the crazed fervour known only to middle-aged might-have-beens. There followed his bungling descent on her Sandwich love nest, and its humiliating defeat. For once, there is Shaw caught with his pants down like the rest of us: overheard making secret phone calls; jilted at the moment of consummation; stripped of wit by the insult to his vanity, and thoroughly out of control.

Thereafter, the relationship underwent a long and extremely cruel reversal in which Shaw put on riches and celebrity like a prize marrow and Mrs Pat slowly lost the lot, winding up her wretched years in Hollywood as a fat, penniless, dog-obsessed exile cadging handouts from the man who continued to avance his career by putting her into his plays.

Jerome Kilty's adaptation of this story has had a long and well-deserved innings over the past 30 years, and Frith Banbury's production takes full advantage of its skill in transforming correspondence into dialogue. Bob Ringwood's set consists of a study and a dressing room, torn apart down the middle and separated by a blood-red boundary line. To each his own side, it seems.

But within minutes Robert Hardy is getting down on his knees to push letters under her front door, and when the show really gets going they are in and out of each others' territory like Lancashire neighbours.

The letters are amplified with a few link passages, which strand the performers unhappily between narrative and character, and two symmetrically placed scenes from *Pygmalion* and *The Apple Cart*. The first of these shows Mr Hardy plausibly tearing his hair out in the attempt to get his leading lady to talk common. The second is dramatically electrifying, as it shows Mrs Pat as herself and as Orinthia, simultaneously longing for the part and outraged by it. All these volcanically conflicting elements are marvellously compressed in Sian Phillips's performance.

As Mr Kilty rightly specified, there is no direct impersonation. The partners come on in roughly appropriate costume and present the relationship without trying to evoke the historical figures. Miss Phillips is much the more detached of the two. She indicates Mrs Pat's grief at her son's death, or her wily attempt to extract favours out of Shaw, while holding the character firmly at arm's length. Every point is made with commanding clarity, but without conjuring up the seductress or the *monstre theatrale*.

Mr Hardy opts for a light brogue which serves him well, not only in the explosions of torrential fun and fury ("I absolutely refuse to play the horse any longer to your Lady Godiva!") but in the extraordinary meditation on his mother's cremation, and the wartime explosions of blind anger. He also ages with pitiless realism from the crackerjack Joey into the slumped, nodding Pantaloon.

Irving Wardle

P. G. Wodehouse

Olivier

The thing to do with the *scrivener Wodehouse is read* him. Talk about him in a pub, certainly. Catch his stuff on the stage or silver screen, when available of course. But, take them for all in all, the chap's words between hard covers are the real tabasco. Accept no substitutes. Still, it is right and proper for the National Theatre to remind us in the centenary of his birth that between 1916 and 1924 he was the sweet singing thrush of 49th Street, writing the lyrics for Guy Bolton's books and Jerome Kern's music. He wrote 33 musical comedies, and at one time had five of them running simultaneously *on the Great White Way*. Writing lyrics was like eating salted almonds for Plum. He could always manage another one.

So in a platform performance on Tuesday enter David Ryall in a wig like a hard-boiled egg and an amiable expression, with *antique desk, a decanter of* the brown stuff and other writer's tools. In the master's words he recalled those early days of musical comedy, of hair's breadth 'scapes with the imminent deadly producer, triumphs and flopperoos. He had business with his pipe and a trick of *scratching his ear with his* little finger that were worth many millibars of atmosphere.

At intervals Mark Bond, Robert Ralph, Sally Cooper and Imelda Staunton came hoofing on to belt out lyrics that rhyme "prune" with "June", or "neuralgia" with "*nostalgia*". The National Theatre has had practice lately with its period New York accents and movements. The celebration was devised and directed by Robert Ralph, and will be repeated on May 21.

If not exactly all spoofed up with zip and vinegar, and certainly not with angst and relevance, it is full of irresistible charm. A very *agreeable hors d'oeuvre to* the main business of the evening, which is, of course, to be curled up with a fruity volume from the master's oeuvre.

Philip Howard


Catherine Ashmore

Pitiless realism, commanding clarity: Robert Hardy and Sian Phillips in "Dear Liar"

A Gentle Spirit

Shaw

Jules Croisset is a Dutch actor of renown. His adaptation of Feodor Dostoyevsky's *short story A Gentle Spirit* is an exceptionally successful Dutch theatre piece, a play for one man. Speaking it in English, in his own version with the assistance of Barrie Keeffe, *he* is deprived of that absolute command of nuance that distinguishes a great actor. What comes through is something less than a great performance, but the *potential of the actor is clear and* his accented dynamism is evocatively Russian.

He speaks alone for two hours. With the covered corpse of his wife on the stage, he portrays a Russian pawnbroker who is trying himself before a jury that is the audience. It is a jury of *his own creation*, for there has been no crime, unless suicide is a crime that involves others. In Dostoyevsky's reasoning, it is just that, but the jury is the man himself and Mr Croisset constantly confronts the seriousness of his own accusation.

Comic considerations come through. There is absurdity that lives in the tragically crossed marriage of a cold, cowardly man of 43 to a girl of 16. Mr Croisset lets that be *seen, but does not* particularly expose it. It may be the foreign language that does not allow him to relax into amusement when it appears in the text; yet when he says that women are not original, *and adds that not even the* dead body is original, he is flummoxed and there is something powerfully and fundamentally comical in the situation. Perhaps it is a feminist tension, so totally unexpected and totally implicit in the script, that balances the humour and the *horror. The man's soul is* being saved by the girl he is slowly driving to death.

Mr Croisset's own power is best expressed in a shuddering epiphany of love. He reenacts the kissing of her feet that tried to excuse months of silence. But, although the actor is strong in his rigor*ous self-examination, he is* too tragically channelled. The story has engrossing strengths of its own.

Ned Chaillet

Dance

Second Stride

Playhouse, Oxford

I wonder whether historians will consider this week's performances by Second Stride at the Playhouse, Oxford, as crucial as the week given at the same theatre 44 years ago by Antony Tudor and the London Ballet? Perhaps not: yet a venture that brings together three of our best choreographers to start a new company must be important.

It makes sense that the present intentions are limited in duration. Between now and the end of August the company will tour Britain, play a week (June 8 to 13) at Riverside Studios, visit the United States for performances at several important centres then dissolve after a week at the Edinburgh Festival. By concentrating their resources in this way they ensure high standards, and they can consider regrouping for further activities once the results are known.

Tuesday night's opening programme included works by all three choreographers, Richard Alston, Siobhan Davies and Ian Spink. One was a premiere, the others coming from their individual repertories. The completely new work is *Rushes*, created by Davies to a score for solo piano composed and played by Michael Finnissy, comprising his favoured rushes of separate notes.

That is one possible interpretation of the title. Davies's choreography also contains moments of rushing from place to place by its six dancers, contrasting with others when they adopt static poses. I think these last, in conjunction with the representation of a film strip in David Buckland's backcloth, imply another meaning of the word as used in the motion picture trade, and it would not surprise me on seeing the work again to find that it also has some allusion to the riverside kind of rushes.

The exact meaning of the work, consequently, is a little elusive, but that does not detract from its interest. The *movement is interesting for* its own sake (and, for all I know, that may be all that Davies intends); the allusiveness adds a touch of mystery that helps encourage attention.

Davies and Juliet Fisher danced the short work which Alston made for them two years ago, *A Field of Mustard*, in which Vaughan Williams's Six Studies in English Folksong for cello and piano accompany mainly solos implying a sudden shift in the relationship between two friends. That was the only music on this programme not specially composed.

Of the two works by Spink on this programme, I was especially taken by *De Gas*. The choreography, like the title, is based on puns: adapting poses from Degas's pictures, especially of domestic scenes, into movement, and making them quietly funny by having the deshabille and the household chores transferred from women to men. Jane Wells's score, for recorded tape and on-stage oboist, is equally good; Christopher Redgate's happy participation in the action reinforces the effect of his playing.

John Percival

Concerts

LPO/Tennstedt

Festival Hall

As keen record-collectors are aware, the London Philharmonic Orchestra are currently recording all Mahler's symphonies. (What about the tenth, I wonder?) under their principal conductor designate, Klaus Tennstedt. During his present spell with them, they will record the fourth symphony, and this they performed together on Tuesday on the South Bank, with Felicity Lott as their golden-voiced, artfully artless, soprano soloist in the last movement.

Tennstedt's readings of Mahler have been rapturously received, and this account of No 4 was equally memorable. Its chief distinction seemed, not altogether superficially, to reside in the conductor's scrupulous attention to special effects, here a cymbal, there a bass drum, now the double basses' pizzicato, or a particularly pungent combination of woodwinds. Tennstedt interpreted the score as if he were examining it under a magnifying glass.

Now and then some passage sounded like a caricature of itself, but almost always the score showed that Tennstedt was not exaggerating: that was actually what Mahler wanted. There is, as Mahlerites are aware, a good measure of spiky humour in the fourth symphony, starting with the *mimicry* of sleighbells and ending with the peasant child's imagination of life in Paradise, each little scene quaintly (I do not mean archly) underlined in the music for the poem.

Good Mahler conductors respect this aspect of the piece, Tennstedt more acutely than most, as if surveying it all through the literal-minded fancies of children, who often embellish their stories with weird incidental detail. He had taken pains, not only with dynamics and tone-colour, but also with Mahler's phrasing, here unusually dapper, and with the structural gearing of consecutive sections.

The first movement began with a gigantic ritenuto into the first melody, thereafter requiring no more than gentle pressure on the brakes; in many transitions, he set the new tempo without preparation, and the effect was both brilliant and poetic — the LPO's response was exceptionally keen, give or take a fluff.

The slow movement was properly the symphony's great point of heavenly repose, unfolded with superb intensity, but not at all minded to drag. As admirable was the continuity of the *development* in the first movement, as if uttered in one breath, and the sheer vivacity of the finale's invention.

Before the interval, Tennstedt and the LPO strings had treated us to an eloquent, intense reading of Schoenberg's descriptive tone-poem *Verklärte Nacht*, emphasizing the wan moonlight of the poem's scene, as well as the sumptuous lyricism and the exquisite delicacy of the "transfigured night" in which the story ends.

William Mann

Schola Cantorum

St John's

Twenty years or so ago, the Schola Cantorum of Oxford made a record of Taverner's *Mass Corona Spinea* which I still treasure. Hearing them on Tuesday, it was as if time had stood still. There was that same undergraduate immaturity in their voices but, more important, the same nervous eagerness which propelled that earlier performance along relent*lessly was also there*. This time, though, heartily encouraged by the confident direction of their conductor, Ivor Bolton — shortly to take up a post at Glyndebourne — the choir's natural impetuosity was stimulated with Venetian music.

Cavalli's *Messa Concertate*, like many pre-classical mass settings, reserves its best moments for its shorter *movements*. For all the variety of the composer's double choir scoring, which includes testing solo parts, he frequently lost my interest in the "Gloria" and "Credo", and there is some irritating word-painting, for example at "Et in unum Dominum", set to one repeated note, and the predictable sequential treatment meted out to "Descendit de caelis". The *singers* did well to keep us awake until the more mellifluous music of the final movements recalled the artful simple grace of the operas.

Mr Bolton's singers responded with sharp reflexes, if occasionally overstretched techniques, to his searing pace in Monteverdi's *Beatus Vir* and the seven-voice *Gloria*, both from the 1641 collection *Selva Morale a Spirituale.* Generally, the soloists sang stylishly, their ornamentation the more effective for its relative modesty. In the *Gloria's* homophonic passages there was an impressive firmness of sound despite the low Ds demanded from the basses, vividly setting off the dancing semiquaver phrases.

Neatly fitted between these two works were a pair of motets by Giovanni Gabrieli, both from his 1615 collection and both, like the Cavalli, *requiring the spatial* separation which St John's could not offer. No matter, for the decorative textures of "O Jesu mi dulcissime" and "Deus in nomine tuo" were clearly delineated yet roundly sonorous, reflecting the full splendour of Venetian music tantilizingly poised between the ages of renaissance and baroque.

Stephen Pettitt

Opera

The Queen of Spades

Gardner Centre, Brighton

During the orchestral introduction to New Sussex Opera's Brighton Festival production of Tchaikovsky's *Queen of Spades Herman*, the doomed gambler-lover, slumps isolated and spotlit downstage, watched in the dark by tiered galleries of onlookers. This chilling tableau of the opera's end in its beginning epitomizes the individuality and consistency of the director Nicholas Hytner's unashamed acknowledgment of Tchaikovsky's melodramatization of Pushkin's dark, laconic story, its sentiment and hysterical fatalism (the fifth symphony lurks there in the wings).

No expense of resource or energy is spared on the big set-pieces: vividly staged and galvanized by Stephen Barlow's tautly dramatic musical *direction*, the *masked* ball, the masque and the gaming-house scene project proudly the amateur chorus's alertness and strength.

Yet despite the strong sense of physical involvement between stage and auditorium in the Gardner Centre's small theatre. exploited *this year and last in Grimes* by Kit Surrey's severe, economic yet forcefully thrusting sets, little can prevent us from being held at arm's length emotionally from this near-caricature of an opera. Especially when, in David Hillman's Herman, histrionic in voice and movement, we have a hero whose destructive passion shows little development and inspires little sympathy. (He takes turns in the part with John Treleaven.) It was a powerfully sustained performance though, and the way his savage words, rather than the sight of the drawn *pistol, are made to kill the* Countess is a nice piece of production.

This confrontation scene was a gripping pivot. Maureen Morelle, an unforgettable Mrs Sedley last year, fleshed out the sinister spectral figure of the Countess with all the pathos of senility as she recalled her former liaisons. She was a match for Patricia O'Neill's intense Lisa, suitably heavy with dark-hued passion, colourfully supported by Anne Marie Owens's sturdy, resonant Polina.

Tchaikovsky's deliciously singable ariosos and arias were enjoyed no less by Eric Roberts as an ardent yet properly aristocratic Prince Yeletsky and William Shimell as an outstanding Count Tomsky, glowing and alive to every detail of his part. But as in *Boris* and *Grimes* of previous years, this was the community's production and *it is to the orchestra*, the adult and children's choruses all rigorously and inventively trained, that the highest praise must go.

Hilary Finch

Interview: Bertrand Tavernier

Reflecting upon one's inner terrors


Malcolm Clarke

"Making films is, for me, a way of not killing people. I have often wanted very strongly to kill people." Bertrand Tavernier, the French film director, insists he is capable of committing murder. Fortunately it is art which pulls him back from the brink. His films, he says, are cathartic, an outlet *for the anger which* inspires them, whether it is directed against social injustice, religion or suffering. He was angry when he made his latest film, *Clean Slate* (*Coup de torchon*), which opens at the Curzon today, and its concentration on violence and cruelty reflects his own inner terrors.

Clean Slate is the most autobiographical of all Tavernier's seven films. The central character, the policeman Cordier, who kills to change a world he can no longer endure, is someone with whom he feels an ambivalent sympathy. "Sometimes I'm completely for him. Sometimes I'm a bit frightened of him. Like him I have felt humiliation, a desire to revolt, the need to destroy and provoke God, and a terrible sense of being powerless. Most of all I have felt anger about *arrogant stupidity. I think* it is one of the deadliest things in the world."

Tavernier, now 41, is one of several notable younger French film directors, but his work is not widely known in this country. His first film, *The Watchmaker of St Paul*, was highly regarded but it was the first of a trilogy whose complementary parts, *Let the Party Begin* and *The Judge and the Assassin* have never been shown here. Neither has *Spoiled Children* although *Deathwatch*, made in English, and *A Week's Holiday* have been distributed.

Tavernier blames the old-fashioned and conservative attitude of the distributors. "They never try to educate people. Instead of trying to get involved with European cinema, they always turn to America. In England you have been *colonized by* American films."

A former film critic and publicity officer for the producer Georges de Beauregard, Tavernier learnt his craft working with directors like Godard and Chabrol. He enjoys taking both actors and audiences by surprise. "After my last film, *A Week's Holiday*, I was immediately labelled 'The great humanist'. So I decided to destroy that image. I wanted to show the anger and fear I felt inside."

The vehicle he chose was *Pop. 1280*, a novel by the American writer Jim Thompson set in the American Deep South in the 1920s. Tavernier first read the book in 1966 but had to wait 11 years before the rights became available. "I had a great shock when I first read it. There was a mixture of violence and black humour, not a very comfortable humour, but one which gets to the nerves of things."

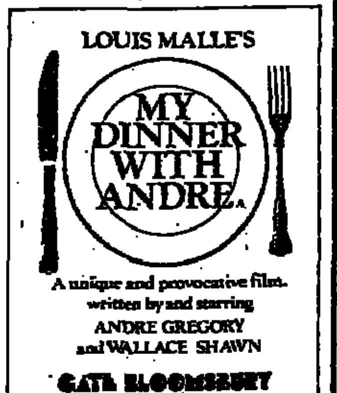
Reluctant to make an "Americanized" French film, Tavernier spent considerable time searching for a French setting that would not distort Thompson's images and ideas. Eventually he came up with a town in French Colonial Africa in 1938, infected by growing fear about the outbreak of war. "We made the picture in Senegal in just eight weeks. About fifty per cent is new material written by Jean Aurenche and me, but I hope the voice is still Thompson's. I suppose *Clean Slate* is the first — if you get the pun — black *film noir*".

Tavernier tried hard to avoid the *seductive dangers of the picturesque*. "If you think of all the films you've seen set in Africa, you realize that as soon as a character goes outdoors hordes of animals — giraffes, zebras — go running past. I was determined to avoid the exotic. In my film the only animals you see are goats, dogs, chickens. Life in Africa was very much the same as in France. Reading the diaries of André Gide, I was struck by the absence of the exotic. He writes that he had mutton stew for breakfast every day".

Clean Slate is the fourth film Tavernier has made with the actor Philippe Noiret, who plays Cordier. He has, he says, an extraordinary, almost telepathic, relationship with him. "Often we don't need words to communicate. He supported me when I had made no films, when I was nothing. I owe him everything". He has also used Isabelle Huppert, to whom he gave her first part, in a way which will surprise devotees of *The Lacemaker*. "I wanted to use her quite differently. I forced her to work instinctively. She was very afraid of the film. I love it when she laughs — she has always been frightened of doing that".

Brought up as a Catholic, now a lapsed Trotskyist, Tavernier cannot decide whether *Clean Slate* is a religious or anti-religious film. "It is in a sense the first screenplay to be dictated by God. The film says: 'If there are things in life which hurt you, complain to God about them'. Cordier puts temptation before people and does what they want him to do. He never tries to make things happen. He is a little like God. Catholic teaching says: 'There is the apple. You are free to eat it or not'. That's bullshit. If you are hungry you will eat the apple. You don't have a choice".

Jane Ellison



Stock Exchange Prices

Falklands Uncertainty

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 30. Dealings End, May 14. § Contango Day, May 17. Settlement Day, May 24.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

M — N

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
70	47	MFI Furn	67	−1	3.7	5.6	12.3
320	173	MK Electric	305	..	17.1	5.6	11.6
330	235	ML Hldgs	283	..	10.0	3.5	9.1
50½	27	MY Dart	28	+½	2.6	9.4	4.8
173	93	McCorquodale	166	..	11.4	6.9	7.2
94	70	Macfarlane	92	..	5.7	6.2	9.4
31	18	McInerney Prop	30	..	2.2	7.4	7.0
55	35	Mackay H.	51	..	5.7	11.2	6.8
127	85	McKechnie Bros	108 ●	..	10.4	9.6	8.7
86	56	Macpherson D.	85	..	6.0	7.1	11.4
174	108	Magnet & S'thns	164	..	7.1	4.4	11.7
217	97	Man Agcy Music	111	..	12.5	11.3	9.5
154	72	Marchwiel	126	−4	9.4	7.5	9.9
162	106	Marks & Spencer	158	−4	6.6	4.2	17.2
51	38½	Marley Ltd	44½	+½	3.2	7.2	12.4
37	14½	Marling Ind	35	..	1.4	4.0	24.5
50	22	Marshall T Lox	46 ●	..	4.0	8.7	4.1
48	21	Do A	41 ●	−1	4.0	9.8	3.6

O — S

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
86½	50	Smurfit	59	..	5.7	9.7	6.9
67	25	Snia Viscosa	27	..	..	..	..
31	22	Solicitors Law	27	..	..e	..	..
510	285	Sotheby P.B.	333	..	17.9	5.4	10.2
174	126	Spirax-Sarco	152	..	6.7	4.4	13.1
60	27	Staffs Potts	27	−1	0.0e		
102	82	Stag Furniture	95	..	7.1	7.5	10.8
70	30	Stakis (Reo)	63	−1	2.3	3.6	10.6
559	374	Standard Tel	554	−5	19.3	3.5	15.4
81	45	Stanley A. G.	58	−1	3.6	6.2	11.1
230	134	Steel Bros	225 r	..	13.7b	6.1	5.5
222	154	Steetley Co	182	−1	15.0	8.2	13.0
28½	15½	Steinberg	27½	..	..e	..	
118	62	Stonehill	63	..	6.1	9.6	21.6
33	16	Streeters	28	−1	..	..	9.6
68	46	Strong & Fisher	48	..	4.3	8.9	
115	79	Sunlight Serv	112	..	4.8	4.3	9.2
52	27	Sutcliffe S'man	27	−1	..e	..	..
188	85½	Swire Pacific 'A'	110	−2½	..	..	..
195	140	Syltone	185	..	12.9	7.0	20.5

T — Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
230	178	Assam Frontier	220	..	14.3	6.5	..
468	415	Camellia Inv	463	..	8.6	1.9	..
380	230	McLeod Russel	285	..	11.8	4.1	..
132	101	Do 8.4% Cnv Pf	101	..	12.0	11.9	..
295	255	Moran	292	..	7.1	2.4	..
128	93	Surmah Valley	125	..	1.4	1.1	..

MISCELLANEOUS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	45	+1	8.8	19.5	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	..
34	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£32	..	83.2	2.6	12.2
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	193	−2	11.9	6.1	12.2
158	93	Milford Docks	132	..	0.7	0.5	..
193	130	Nesco Inv	130	..	10.0	8.3	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33½	..	500	14.9	..

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A I M Group 10p Ord (140)	161+2
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	209−3
Bristol Water 9% Red Pf 1987 (†b)	£11¼
Cass Group 10p Ord (105a)	107
Continental Microwave 25p Ord (260a)	325
De Brett (Andre) 10p Ord (60a)	61
Dew George 25p Ord	126
Druck Holdings 5p Ord (130a)	145
Fleet Holdings 20p Ord	31½−1
Io Technology 5p Ord (250a)	248
Jebsens Drilling 25p Ord (a)	285
Leisure Industries 25p Ord (120a)	120−4
Oceonics 10p Ord (130a)	180+10
Osprey Assets 25p Ord	30
PH Industrials 25p Ord	42½
Standard Securities 25p Ord	137−1

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Ansbacher H. (10z)	Jun 18	11½ prem
Bank Leumi UK (170z)	July 24	15 prem
Lilley FJC (120z)	Jun 4	36 prem
Steel Bros (170z)	Jun 11	51 prem
Vickers (133z)	Jun 10	18 prem−3

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. z Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £35 paid. j £35 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) May 5	Market rates (close) May 5	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.7940-1.8100	$1.8050-1.8065	0.30-0.40c disc	0.75-0.85c disc
Montreal	$2.1960-2.2075	$2.2055-2.2070	0.43-0.53c disc	1.20-1.30c disc
Amsterdam	4.62-4.66fl	4.64½-4.65½fl	1½-1¼c prem	5½-5c prem
Brussels	78.65-79.00f	78.75-78.85f	15-25c disc	50-65c disc
Copenhagen	14.16-14.25k	14.22-14.23k	860-940ore disc	2105-2240ore disc
Dublin	1.2050-1.2150p	1.2095-1.2110p	60-75p disc	165-185p disc
Frankfurt	4.17-4.20m	4.18¾-4.19¾m	1¼-1¼pf prem	5-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	126.75-127.75e	126.80-127.30e	200-570c disc	410-1230c disc
Madrid	185.50-186.75p	185.90-186.15p	60-80c disc	190-230c disc
Milan	2315-2326lr	2323-2325lr	21½-24½lr disc	68-73lr disc
Oslo	10.76-10.81k	10.79-10.80k	625-730ore disc	975-1085ore disc
Paris	10.88-10.94f	10.92-10.93f	9-12c disc	24½-29½c disc
Stockholm	10.40-10.45½k	10.44-10.45k	80-25ore prem	225-165ore prem
Tokyo	422-426y	422-423y	2.35-2.05y prem	6.90-6.60y prem
Vienna	29.35-29.55sch	29.45-29.50sch	14-11gro prem	38-31gro prem
Zurich	3.49-3.51f	3.49-3.50f	3¼-2¾c prem	8¼-7¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.5 at 89.6

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13½ Low 11

Week Fixed: 12⅞-12¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12²⁹⁄₃₂	2 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆
3 months	12¾	3 months	12⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13-12²⁹⁄₃₂	1 month	13¾
2 months	12²⁹⁄₃₂-12²⁷⁄₃₂	2 months	13½
3 months	12⅞-12	3 months	13½
6 months	12⅞-12½	6 months	13½

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14-13¾	7 months	13⅞-13⅝
2 months	14-13¾	8 months	13⅞-13⅝
3 months	14-13¾	9 months	14-13¾
4 months	14-13¾	10 months	14-13¾
5 months	14-13¾	11 months	14-13¾
6 months	13⅞-13⅝	12 months	13⅞-13⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	13⁹⁄₁₆-13¾₁₆	6 months	13½-13¾
3 months	13½-13¾	12 months	13½-13¾

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	13¼	3 months	13½
7 days	13¾	6 months	13½
1 month	13¾	1 year	13⁹⁄₁₆

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12¾-12½ Close 6

1 week	13¼-12¾	6 months	13¹¹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆
1 month	13⅝-13⁵⁄₁₆	9 months	13¹¹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆
3 months	13¹¹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆	12 months	13¹¹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
2 months 14 6 months 14

Finance House Base Rate 14%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6925-1.7075
Bahrein	0.6750-0.6780
Finland	8.1290-8.1600
Greece	112.40-114.40
Hongkong	10.46-10.50
Iran	n a
Kuwait	0.5115-0.5145
Malaysia	4.1145-4.1445
Mexico	88.30-89.70
New Zealand	2.3070-2.3270
Saudi Arabia	6.1450-6.1750
Singapore	3.75-3.78
South Africa	1.8910-1.9060

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4935-1.4950
+ Canada	1.2221-1.2224
Netherlands	2.5750-2.5780
Belgium	43.64-43.69
Denmark	7.87-7.88
West Germany	2.3175-2.3185
Portugal	70.70-71.20
Spain	103.15-103.25
Italy	1286.75-1287.75
Norway	5.9750-5.9850
France	6.0500-6.0530
Sweden	5.7800-5.7900
Japan	233.75-233.90
Austria	16.31-16.33
Switzerland	1.9335-1.9350

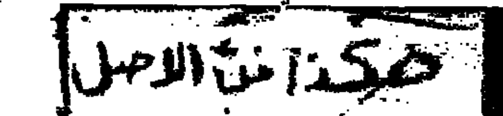
* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8180-0.8300

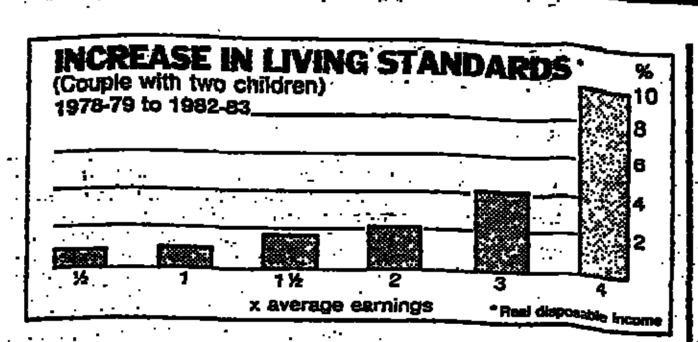
Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14-15; seven days, 15¼-15½; one month, 15-13¾; three months, 14¾-15; six months, 14¹¹⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am. $341.75 (an ounce), pm. $338.40 close, $336.50.
Krugerrand* (per coin): $346-348 (£192-193).
Sovereigns* (new): $82-83 (£45.5-46)
* Excludes VAT





Four consecutive Conservative Budgets have left the lowest paid workers barely better-off than in the final year of the last Labour government, while the highest paid have improved their living standards by nearly 10 per cent. The figures in the chart, compiled by the Treasury in answer to a parliamentary question, are based on take-home pay plus child benefit (and family income supplement where appropriate) adjusted for inflation.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 575.4 down 8.8
FT Gilts 67.67 down 0.31
FT Allshare 328.52 down 4.03
Bargains 16,049
Tokyo: market closed
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,316, down 3.16

INTEREST RATES

Base rates 13%
3 month interbank 13[11]/[16]-13[7]/[16]
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 14¾-15
3 month DM 8¾-8⅝
3 month Fr F 23⅝-22⅞

CURRENCIES

● The pound ended stronger against a weaker dollar but lost ground against continentals in the wake of Falklands developments. The dollar fell sharply on expectations of lower interest rates in the short term.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
$1.8060 up 95 points
Index 89.6 down 0.5
DM 4.1875
Fr F 10.9250
Yen 4.2400
DOLLAR
Index 112.6 down 0.9
DM 2.3180 down 250 points
GOLD
$336.50 down $6.00

PRICE CHANGES

Lloyds Bank 396p down 7p
Thorn EMI 420p down 12p
Lasmo 342p down 13p
General Accident 288p down 10p
British Sugar 495p down 10p
Smith St Aubyn 34p down 4p
Tootal 37½p down 3p
Trident TV (A) 78p down 4p
Unilever 609p down 8p
P & O Dfd 144p up 5
United Scientific 341p up 11p

Invergordon rescue plan

Final details of a new rescue plan for the Invergordon aluminium smelter are unlikely to be completed until next week, despite the plan's approval in principle by the Cabinet's key economic committee last Tuesday. The plan involves offering a cheap power package based on subsidized coal to potential buyers of the plant, shut by British Aluminium shortly after Christmas with the loss of nearly 900 jobs. Whitehall officials stress that the Scottish Office package still has no guarantee of being acceptable to the four or five companies interested in Invergordon.

'Call up' ships payment

P & O has received a down-payment of £1.25m from the Government after the requisition of four ships, including the Canberra, for Falklands duty. Talks on full compensation are continuing and the Ministry of Defence is being billed monthly. Meanwhile, P & O pretax profit last year fell from £47.07m to £40.95m. There was a strong recovery in the second half after profits had slumped from £12.9m to £729,000 at the interim stage. The total dividend rises from 8p to 10p. Lord Inchcape, chairman, forecasts improved results this year.

Manager 'exploited' singer

A High Court judgment has effectively made null and void earnings estimated at £3m made by Management Agency and Music through its association with singer Gilbert O'Sullivan. Mr Justice Mars-Jones said that the singer had been exploited by Mr Gordon Mills his former manager, chairman of MAM. He awarded Mr O'Sullivan the copyright of his songs, with records master tapes. In his judgment the judge said that between 1970 and 1978 Gilbert O'Sullivan records had grossed about £14.5m — from which Mr O'Sullivan made about £400,000 before tax. The MAM board says it has been advised to appeal.

Chequepoint checks fraud

Chequepoint, which runs twelve late night cheque cashing branches in central London, is reporting for fraud around 30 or 40 holders of stolen cheque cards each month, saving the high street banks an estimated £250,000 a year. On average each bank branch could expect to spot just one stolen cheque card a year. "Our counter staff are always on the lookout for potential fraud", Mr Anthony Hutton, chief executive of Chequepoint, said. Cashiers are also trained to spot counterfeit notes.

● JOHN LOGUE (above) was the only person willing to take a risk in the beleaguered British carpet industry, when BMK was advertised for sale. Mr Logue has bought the Scotth manufacturer of Axminster, Wilton and tufted carpets for an undisclosed price. Page 18

Imports attack

Britain must cease being the soft market for the so-called developing world and action was needed against countries which blocked imports of British goods by crippling duties while having free access to the United Kingdom, Mr Geoffrey Moore, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders president said in London yesterday.

More UK oil

The United Kingdom produced 19 per cent more oil than it consumed in the first quarter of this year, the largest surplus yet in seven years of North Sea output, according to Department of Energy figures published yesterday. Output was up by 7.5 per cent on the year before to 23.5 million tonnes.

● THE GOVERNMENT was urged by Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the Insititue of Directors, to give away loss-making nationalized industries. He told a London conference the private sector should be paid to remove the burden of loss-makers on public funds.

● SNOOKER club groups Riley Leisure and Lucania Snooker Clubs are planing to join forces in a deal worth £3.1m. Riley has agreed terms to buy Kensal House Investments, owner of the 16-club Lucania group.

● UNONS were warned yesterday by Mr Ian Kelsall, director of the Wales CBI, that a "wages spree would have a catastrophic effeect on jobs and severely hamper the slow industrial recovery."

COMPANIES

John Mowlem

John Mowlem, the international construction group, advanced profits by almost a quarter to £7.8m compared with £6.3m in the year to December 31, 1981. Group turnover in the year advanced by only 14 per cent to £271m from £240.

Comfort Hotels

After plunging to a pre-tax loss of £93,000 at the half-way stage, Comfort Hotels International made a second half recovery with taxable profits of £607,000 in 1981 against £1.40m the previous year. The final dividend is held at 0.57p gross, making an unchanged total of 0.86p.

Matthew Hall

Matthew Hall, the oil and chemical engineers, raised pretax profits to £10.3m from £9.5m for the year to December 1981, and saw its ordinary shares rise 1p to 194p yesterday as a result.

TODAY

Provisional figures of vehicle production (April).
Housing starts and completions (March).
Company results — interims — (Moss Engineering, MY Dart, Royal Bank of Scotland, Sungei Bahru Rubber, Transvaal Land. Finals — Altifund, Doankanda Rubber, Garnar Booth, Hartons, Helical Bar, Marshall's Universal, Minty Platignum, Pritchard Services, Francis Shaw, Francis Sumner, Thamet Investment and Securities, UDS Group.

Gold and currency reserves lowest for three years

Pound and shares recover after nervous trading

Finicial markets reated nervously yesterday to British losses in the South Atlantic late in Tuesday and business was dominated by unconfirmed rumours.

The pound fell sharply in erratic trading against Continental currencies, though it finished stronger against a weaker dollar, while Government stocks and shares also lost ground.

The Treasury's announcement that Britian's gold and currency reserves fell by $810m last month to their lowest for more than three years had relatively little impact.

The pound fell to $1.7950 at one stage yesterday before finishing in London at $1.8060, nearly a cent up from Tuesday and its highest for six weeks. But the index measuring its wider international value dropped 0.5 to 89.6 per cent of its 1975 level, reflecting falls against European currencies such as the Deutschemark.

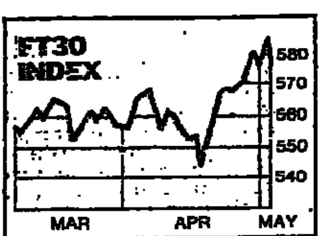
The dollar was hit by lower short term interest rates and expectations that rates are likely to fall further in the short term, now that the April bulge in the money supply has passed without a tightening of credit policy by the United States authorities.

Against the Deutschemark the dollar tumbled 2½ pfennigs to DM 2.3180, a fall of nearly 8 pfennigs in just two weeks.

The drop in Britain's official reserves left them standing at $18,159m (£10,105m) at the end of April, their lowest since March 1979. After adjusting for loan repayments and valuation changes the underlying fall — a rough guide to Bank of England intervention in foreign exchange markets to steady the pound — amounted to $394.

Though substantial, this suggests that intervention following the Falklands invasion has been on a smaller scale than last autumn, when sterling threatened to collapse.

Loan repayments from the reserves last month included $106m of the International Monetary Fund Oil Facility, half of which was an early repayment. This brings



Britain's outstanding debt under this facility to SDR 155m (Special Drawing Rights) — about £97m — from the original SDR 1,000m drawn in 1976.

The Government also repaid $202m of five-year foreign currency bonds, issued in 1977 to encourage unwilling overseas holders of official sterling balances to keep their money in Britain.

The reserves were also affected by net repayments of public sector borrowing under the exchange cover scheme of $69m, and a revaluation fall of $77m.

In yesterday's uncertainty, Tuesday's on the stock market looked overdone, and in light trading shares were marked down, particularly in the kindustrial sector. But by the close some shares were recovering and the FT 30 index closed down 8.8 at 575.4, compared to 570.1 at 10 o'clock.

Gilts were down about half a point in the long and medium sectors of the market, and shorts recovered at the end of the day to be down about a quarter.

In the United States institution investors have moved back strongly into Wall Street after the profit-mtking and nervousness seen earlier in the week (Nichlas Hirst writes).

In heavy trading the Dow Jones industrial share average by non was up 4.28 at 858.73, following a rise of 5.42 to 854.45 at the close yesterday.

The market is now shredding off bad news, ignoring the Falkland Islands crisis and the lack of a compromise on the United States budget to continue the long rally which began seven weeks ago.

No sign of recovery, CBI says

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Employers' leaders again clashed with the Government yesterday over the prospects for Britain's economic revival. There was, said the Confederation of British Industry, "still no evidence of any noticeable recovery in activity."

The CBI's April industrial trends survey of 1,695 manufacturing companies. shows that demand remains flat and nine out of ten compainies expect output to be constrained in the coming months by a shortage of orders or sales.

The only bright spots are a marginal improvement in business optimism, a small rise in profitability and a more widespread improvement in corporate liquidity.

The CBI's stark message contrasts sharply with the recent pronouncement from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that a modest and reasonable broadly based economic recovery was under way.

But Sir James Cleminson, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee, said yesterday: "Government ministers are looking on the bright side, which I would do if I were a politician. But overall I do not think that there has been a coming off the bottom of recession that the Chancellor would like us to believe."

"A further and sustained reduction in interest rates as soon as possible and a continued fall in pay settlements are needed to bring about the improvements in competiveness so necessary for increased demand and the creation of new job," he said.

The survey indicates continued extensive falls in manufacturing employment and the CBI estimates that job losses will average 15,000 a month up to July. This would confirm its forecast that unemployment will reach a peak of 3.250 million.

Twenty-four per cent of companies are more optimistic than they were four months ago, despite the uncertainties over the deepening Falklands crisis.

CBI leaders later joined with government ministers in criticizing the National Economic Development Office and Mr. Geoffrey Chandler, its director general, for the absence of practical proposals in a report submitted to the full NEDC on future industrial policy.

The report which is to be broadened in scope to include firm recommendations and put to the council later in the year was described by Mr Patrick Jenkin the Industry Secretary, as like "wrestling with cotton wool."

Graham Ferguson Lacey

Lacey resigns as Cook makes £9m NCC bid

By Philip Robinson

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey, the 33-year-old financier who tried to turn the former Rexco fuel company into a leading mineral and oil exploration force as NCC Energy, has resigned as its chairman and chief executive. With him has gone his life-long septuagenarian friend, Mr Cecil McBride.

Their departure was announced last night by Cook International, America's second-largest pest controller, as it unveiled a 25p a share takeover bid for NCC, valuing it at £9.2m. In the past two months NCC has had a stock market price tag of £41m.

Cook has also instituted the terms of a "put" option in NCC shares which could mean that Mr Ferguson Lacey and Mr McBride face a personal liability of £3.5m.

Cook was given 3 million NCC shares as collateral for a $6.7m loan which enabled NCC to buy more shares in the American group, Simplicity Pattern, where Mr Ferguson Lacey was chairman.

Under the terms of the option, Cook could insist that Mr Ferguson Lacey and Mr McBride buy back the shares at a £1 each, plus interest on the loan. It was still unclear last night whether Mr Ferguson Lacey and Mr McBride were individual parties to that agreement or whether they share a combined responsibility to buy back the shares.

Mr Ferguson Lacey, whose plush headquarters in London's Buckingham Gate were being occupied last night by Cook's chairman, Mr Edward Cook, was said to be unavailable for comment.

Simplicity Pattern refused to comment yesterday on whether Mr Ferguson Lacey was still its Chairman. His position and the majority of the NCC directors on the Simplicity board, arose from NCC's 20 per cent holding. Mr Ferguson Lacey was negotiating the sale of that holding — a major factor in the NCC balance sheet — when he heard that a takeover bid for his company had been made.

Cook has now ordered a thorough investigation of NCC's finances covering its business activities, assets and liabilities, by accountant Peat Marwick Mitchell. Peat Marwick has already been appointed receivers to Mr Ferguson Lacey's private investment vehicle, Birmingham and Midland Counties Trust Holdings, which has not filed accounts with Companies House since 1980. It is controlled by Mr Ferguson Lacey and Mr McBride through a charitable trust, the Cecil Foundation.

The receivers said last night they were still waiting for updated figures on the Cecil Foundation and BMCTH.

WHITEHALL BACKS NEW TECH FIRMS

By Bill Johnstone

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, last night reaffirmed the Government's intention to favour the new technology industries instead of supporting what he terms the "casualties of the past".

He announced the Government's commitment in a speech last night at the annual dinner of the Electronic Engineering Association.

Mr Jenkin said: "When I took over at the department and asked for a breakdown of our spending, I was astonished to learn that no less than half my budget goes to support the casualties of the past. I am determined to change this".

He emphasized that the current trade deficit of about £230m in information technology goods, highlighted last week in a report by the National Economic Development Council was totally unacceptable.

"The electronics industry and the Government must address themselves urgently to what needs to be done to stop it happening," he said.

Another report prepared for the NEDC also stresses the growing trade gap in consumer electronics.

Business Editor

General Accident's chilling tale

Judging by yesterday's appalling results from General Accident, the first quarter of this year is going to be one of the worst periods ever for the industry, and forecasts for Commercial Union, which reports next week, have already been downgraded to losses.

The severe winter weather was the main reason for General Accident's £30m turnround to pretax losses of £11m. In the United Kingdom alone, weather losses are put at £20m — far higher than anyone expected — and the overall underwriting loss at £54m was not only three and half times more than in the first quarter a year ago, but larger than for the whole of last year.

But if the weather losses can be described as exceptional, the rest of the picture is almost as gloomy. General Accident like any other, is still being squeezed by low premium rates, caused by the fierce competition and overcapacity in the industry, and heavier claims. An underlying 18 per cent rise in investment income in the first quarter has proved hopelessly inadequate compensation.

In the United States the first quarter operating ratio has deteriorated from 106 to 111 per cent and results from all the other main areas worsened by varying degrees.

In the United Kingdom, General Accident now has to resolve the problem of motor rates at a time when the market is looking increasingly unhealthy.

Overall profits this year may be down by a fifth or more, but at least there should still be scope to raise the dividend.

CBI Survey
Hopeful signs

The calendar tells us it should be spring but the CBI's survey of trends shows, at first sight at least, a uniformly bleak and wintry landscape. Look closer at the answers, however, and it is just possible to see the occasional late snowdrop trying to burst through.

Some industries are showing signs of increased output, including the hard-hit engineering sector. All companies seem to be sharing in an improvement of liquidity and the improvement in productivity goes on apace.

Last, but perhaps most important for the economy as a whole, there are signs that business confidence is rising, even if orders are not.

Those are the bright spots for industry. For the Government, the good news is that inflationary expectations are obviouslu cooling. There is now less risk of a sharp upward burst in prices when output picks up, although cynics may feel that this is partly because output shows little sign of recovering.

For the rest, the figures are a grim reminder that so far recovery has been painfully slow for most of Britain's industry. But nothing in the latest set of figures casts real doubt on the consinsus that output will rise by about 1½ per cent this year.

P & O
Mixed picture

Whatever the public thinks, P & O remains fixed in the City's eyes as a shipping company which makes a pittance from the trade. Last year the group's net profit from ships, excluding OCL, was a mere £2m, although just under half total assets (of around £700m) are in ships.

Yet in the past six months, all the headlines have revolved around ships, hence the share price gyrations on rumours of bids from Chinese owners, strikes at Southampton.

A conglomerate, then, with shipping interests, P & O derived the bulk of its 1981 pretax profit of £41m (down from a peak £47.1m, but proof of a remarkable recovery after the £729,000 earned at the interim stage) from oil trading, Bovis, banking and property.

Oil profits fell from £17.2m to £10.6m due to deregulation in the United States, over-capacity and conservation. But Bovis profits jumped from £2.3m to £6.8m, despite the construction slump, and the other divisions made useful contributions with th exception of ferries. At least the losses here were down from £8.1m to £6.7m — and a further cut is expected this year after 15 per cent price rises.

The sale of bulk cargo ships will continue, leaving the group to concentrate on its interest in specialist container vessels. Debt is down from a peak of £420m to £270 — including a £10m fall in the latest year and gearing is a conservative 30 per cent. Profits in 1982 could touch £50m and the current share price of 145p, up 6p, compares with a probable net asset value of around 400p.

Hungary wins membership of IMF

From Bailey Morris, Washington, May 5

Hungary has become the second Soviet Block country to join the International Monetary Fund. An IMF spokesman said Hungary's membership application was approved by a wide margin by the 145 member countries including the United States. The Reagan Administration has been less supportive of Poland's still pending IMF membership application.

A high-level delegation of Hungarians led by Mr Jozsef Marjai, the deputy prime minister, has been in Washington for almost a week for talks with both the IMF and the World Bank. Now the IMF application has been approved membership in the World Bank is expected to follow quickly.

In addition to approving Hungary's application, the IMF has also taken steps to ease the growing financial pressures on Romania, already a member organization, by lifting a five-month suspension of its borrowng capability.

Last November, the IMF suspended Romania's access to a $1,300m (£72m) line of credit because it failed to carry out certain, specified economic reforms and it was falling behind in repayments to Western banks and companies.

The Romanian goverment has been attempting in recent months to refinance an estimated $2,300m in debt repayments due this year to more than 300 Western banks. Romania became the first Soviet Block country to join the IMF when its membership application was approved in 1973.

In taking the decisions of admitting Hungary and providing financial support to Romania, the IMF has provided important psychological and practical support to the two Communist nations

Rise in sales lags behind inflation

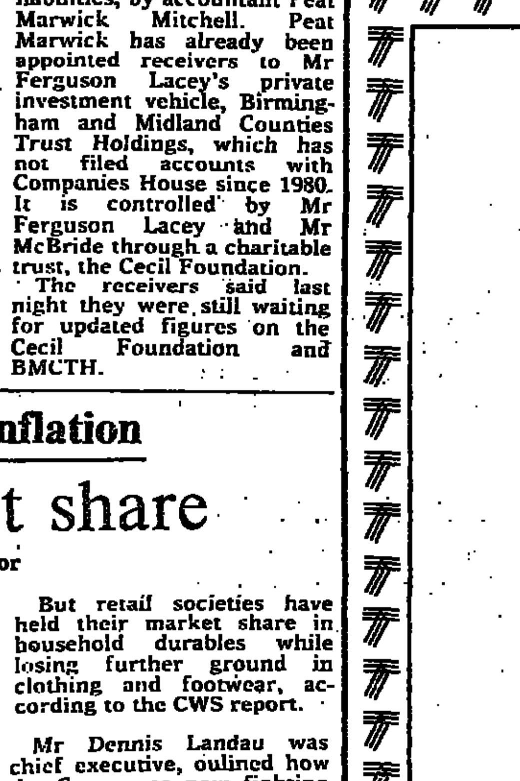
Co-op loses market share

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Co-operative movement may still be the number one grocery multiple, but the gap between it and J. Sainsbury is narrowing. The latest Audits of Great Britain returns for March show Sainsbury with 15.3 per cent of the packaged grocery market (up from 13 per cent in March last year) while the Co-op was down to 16.2 per cent from 17.4 per cent a year ago.

The successful march of Sainsbury took another stride forward yesterday with annual results showing a near 23 per cent increase in sales over 1980, with pretax profits up nearly 36 per cent. At the same time 1981 returns from the Manchester-based Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS), while showing an impressive trading profits rise of 44 per cent, showed a sales rise of only 5 per cent.

Tesco Stores is still number three at 13.2 per cent (13.5 per cent a year ago) and Asda, part of Associated Dairies Group, at 6.1 per cent (7.8 per cent previously).





Paxton: fighting back

CWS food division sales, up 6.4 per cent and so lagging behind the sector inflation rate of 7.3 per cent, indicate an erosion of the retail societies' market share.

But retail societies have held their market share in household durables while losing further ground in clothing and footwear, according to the CWS report.

Mr Dennis Landau was chief executive, oulined how the Co-op was now fighting back, including a new ;lan for retail societies to capitalize on their wide holdings of freehold property. A chain of CWS regional distribtion centres are now bringing a big increase in the coordination of buying and marketing by retail societies.

Profitability at CWS the biggest trading entity in the Co-op movement with £1,900m turnover, arose from improved profits in some trading divisions, including funeral services and optical manufacture, Mr Landau said.

Sainsbury results, page 18

MARKET SUMMARY

Falklands uncertainty depresses shares

Uncertainty about the outcome in the South Atlantic can be translated into political uncertainty which the market dislikes above all. That is why yesterday saw a reversal of Tuesday's rally.

But leading brokers remarked that the market did not feel as depressed as the index made it appear. The manufacturing companies in the index were down quite heavily, as recent rises were judged overdone against the background of the stagnant British economy.

So **Turner & Newall** was down 3p at 66p. **ICI** fell by 6p to 320p. **Vickers** dropped by 3p to 163p.

The market had come off the bottom before the close of the day. The opening index showed a fall of 14.1, it rallied to a level down 8 points by noon, came back to a fall of 10 points at 3 o'clock and recovered to a drop of 8.8 on the day by 5 o'clock. There was a low volume of trading, although those lines that were around were said to have found a ready home given that the jobbers were still short of stock after the rally on Friday night and on Tuesday.

There was a large amount of **Thorn EMI** on offer from the market, and the price closed down 13p at 420p. Analysts have become nervous of prospects for video sales.

General Accident's first quarter figures disappointed the market, and the shares fell by 10p to 288p. Analysts marked down their forecasts for **Royal** and **Commercial Union**, whose figures are due next week, as the underwriting background in the United Kingdom and the United States is obviously worse than feared, with competition keeping down motor premiums.

Additionally, the bad weather this winter has increased the cash payment of claims reducing the opportunity of investment profits. **Royal** closed unchanged at 331, but **Commercial Union** was down 4p at 126p, and **Eagle Star** dropped by 10p to 352p.

Other moves on company news was a drop in **Smith St Aubyn** shares by 4p to 35p on the loss. **P&O Dfd** rose by 5p to 144p on the figures.

Some banks were depressed by the Falklands news, with **Lloyds** down 4p at 396p, as their particular worries about its Argentine involvement. **National Westminster** was down 11p at 405p. But **Barclays** was unchanged at 448p and **Midland** stayed at 323p.

Sainsbury closed unchanged at 650p on its 35 per cent profits rise and the scrip issue. **Trident TV** eased a further 4p to 78p awaiting the court decision on its casino licence renewals.

Channel Tunnel was again the most startling rise in the market, gaining 37p to 170p on hopes of a favourable decision on the tunnel later this month.

Charter Consolidated was down 3p at 210p after the rebuff of its bid for **Anderson Strathclyde**, whose shares closed at 140p, up 1p.

Lasmo was 342p against 354p, as the chairman's statement was described as gloomy about North Sea profits prospects and tax discouragement. The prospects for a merger with **Oil Exploration**, whose immediate prospects were the Andrew Field and the T Block, were delayed, the chairman said.

Rothmans rose a further 4½p to 98p on hopes of a bid from **Philip Morris**. **United Scientific** was up 8p at 338p on the Egyptian optics contract. But **Ductile** fell 7p to 146p on profit-taking after **Glynwed's** bid.

Gold shares were steady. Active shares including **Plessey**, down 8p at 395p, **Land Securities**, down 5p at 285p. **British Aerospace** was also down 1p at 202p.

H. Young Holdings, the Surrey-based motor distributors is proposing a one for one rights issue at 25p share to raise approximately £190,000 net, to finance a Mercedes Benz distributorship. The company says firm undertakings have already beean received from certain existing shareholders that they will take up their full entitlements — these acceptances amoount to around 50 per cent of the existing issued shares. The share price fell 3p to 26p.

Sally White

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date.	Year's total.
Brixton Est (F)	—(—)	6.13(3 92)	6.15(4.33)	1.95(1.41)	—	3.5(2.63)
Comfort Hotels (F)	24.08(21.42)	0.6(1.4)	0.88(2.60)	0.4(0.4)	—	0.6(0.6)
T. Cowir (I)	44(44)	0 31(0.19)	1.15(3.06)	0.8(0.8)	—	—(1.6)
Gen Accident (F)	—(—)	11.1b(19.3)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(16.25)
P. C. Henderson (F)	31.88(29.28)	2.48(1.46)	31.1(17.0)	7.25(5 75)	—	10.0(8.0)
Ldn & Provincial (I)	—(—)	0 5(0.25)	2.3(1.1)	0.9(0.6)	1/7	2.7(1.8)
Millets (F)	17.74(16.64)	0.327(0.605)	10.7(16.2)	4 0(4.0)	15/7	6.95(6.95)
John Mowlem (F)	271.0(240)	7.8(6.3)	34.5(30.8)	9.62(8.75)	1/7	9.62(8.75)
1928 Inv Trust (F)	—(—)	2.96(2.6)	4 92(4.63)	2.75(—)	—	4.75(4.4)
P. & O. (F)	3,070(2,240)	40.95(47.07)	21 9(29.9)	7(5)	—	10(8)
J. Sainsbury (F)	1,951(1,589)	89.0(66.0)	23.74(17.74)	6 4(5.0)	23/7	9.75(7.25)
Smith St Aubyn (F)	—(—)	2.75ac(3.44c)	—(—)	nil(6.0)	—	4.5(10.5)
N. American Inv. Trust (F)	—(—)	1.107c(1.96c)	6.79(6.26)	4.25(—)	—	6.25(6.25)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1 428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss b=First quarter c=Net

Sainsbury still confounds the pessimists

To the casual observer, Sainsbury the food retailing group has more reasons than most for failure, (Anthony Hilton writes). Established well over 100 years, it is still firmly in the hands of its founding family, with three in the boardroom.

Worse, according to conventional wisdom, Sir John Sainsbury chairman and chief executive insists on being involved with every last detail of the company to the extent that, as one analyst put it, if a customer complains about a tin of sardines he calls the buyer in for an explanation. Finally the company is a pillar of the food business which means that in times of recession it should, if not suffer, at least struggle a little.

Instead it rewrites the pessimists' textbooks. Pretax profits for the year to the end of last February were £89m against £65.8m — a 36 per cent increase which came on top of a 43 per cent spurt in 1980.

Sales rose 22.7 per cent to £1,950m from £1,589m and after associated company interests, £5.7m for the staff profit sharing scheme — up even more than profits, — and a £15.4m tax charge (£12.7m) the net profit comes out 27 per cent ahead at £68m.

Shareholders benefit too. Earnings per share are 23.74p (17.74p) and the shares, up 5p at 655p on the heavily anticipated good news, sell on a fully-taxed price/earnings ratio of 27.

The company proposes a one for one scrip issue and a final dividend of 6.5p, making the total for the year of 9.75p (7.25p).

Sainsbury is now in a class of its own, clearly ahead of Asda, the superstore pioneer, which is suffering from the costs of moving south, and Tesco, troubled by its move into non-foods. Hence a share rating which has more in common with a high-flying electronics company than food retailing. The rating reflects the company's virtuous circle — years of store building and modernization leading to productivity gains, which allow it to hold prices lower than its rivals but still make a better margin of 4.5 per cent.


Sir John and customers at the Nine Elms store yesterday.

The real question is how much longer can it continue? An ebullient Sir John says the market is nowhere near to saturation, with scope for dozens of new stores in the north and improved outlets in the south. But the cost will be high, with a planned capital spend of £150m this year against £126m in 1981, probably too much to finance internally.

BMK carpets off the floor

Mr John Logue, the 52-year-old Lancastrian businessman who has bought a big part of high quality carpet group Blackwood Morton & Sons from its receivers, was the only person willing to take a chance in the beleaguered carpet industry when the company was advertised for sale (Philip Robinson writes).

Through his private group SAP, Mr Logue has bought BMK, makers of Axminster, Wilton and tufted carpets, whose former parent company went into receivership six months ao owing £6.5m. He owns 67 per cent of BMK. The remainder is owned by an unnamed partner and held through a Swiss nominee holding company.

But yesterday he refused to disclose the price, claiming the receivers had asked him to keep it secret. However, because of the complexity of the deal, it was agreed with the receivers that no purchase price figure was meaningful.

There was also some confusion over the value of the assets he had bought through SAP, his Gloucester-based engineering company. Mr Logue estimated them at £10m, but sources close to the Kilmarnock-based company said they would be surprised if the figure was that high.

Mr Logue, an engineer and former deputy managing director of Bowyers food group, has bought the freehold of one million sq ft of mixed quality factory space on four sites in Kilmarnock and the lease on BMK's principal Riverside factory. The freehold of this site was sold by the receiver to the Scottish Development Agency.

With the purchase will go an estimated £5m of potential tax losses. BMK, which had been losing money since 1976 and once employed 1,500, now has a workforce of 200. This is likely to rise next month to 340 as the company starts work on a new order. Mr Logue expects to break even or show a modest profit for the year to next December on a turnover of about £12m.

BMK is now a 67 per cent owned subsidiary of his SAP group which he bought from the receiver in 1970 for £12,000.

£2.75m loss at St Aubyn

Smith St Aubyn, the discount house which revealed £20m of losses on gilts in January after being badly caught out by rising interest rates, reported a £2.75m loss in the year to April 5 (Peter Wilson-Smith writes). The loss, which compares with a £3.4m profit the previous year, was struck after transferring out most of the group's hidden reserves and was also reduced by recovery of tax.

However, Smith has still ended the year in slightly better shape than some in the City feared. It made profits in the final quarter and seems to have benefited from the rise in the gilts market earlier this year. At one stage in January the group had a deficit to reserves and no hidden reserves; but by the year-end it had retained profits of £1.6m and, to prevent uncertainty, the group has taken the unusual step of disclosing up to £500,000 of hidden reserves.

After the £2.7m rights issue, Smith now has published capital and reserves of £8.6m compared with £9.3m in April 1981. Most of the previous year's huge gilt holdings have been liquidated and gilts in the balance sheet were down from £308m to £4.7m at the year-end. Bills discounted have risen from £211m to £301m, although total balance sheet footings have still contracted sharply from £605m to £363m.

STATISTICS

UK RESERVES

End of Period	$m	£m	Chg in mth $m
1981			
March*	28,212	12,583	−222
April	28,006	13,084	−145
May	26,487	12,793	−1,579
June	25,631	13,223	−856
July	24,586	13,294	−1,063
Aug	24,511	13,281	−57
Sept	23,696	13,088	−815
Oct	23,316	12,634	+147
Nov	23,463	11,971	+147
Dec	23,347	12,217	−116
1982			
Jan	23,225	12,331	−122
Feb	23,373	12,825	+148
March*	18,969	10,637	−4,404
April	18,159	10,105	−810

*Reserves revalued each year end March

COMMODITIES

COPPER Afternoon.—Higher grade cash was steadier £873.00-74.00; three months £903.0-3.50. Sales: 9700 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £864.0-66.0; three months, £895.0-96.0. Sales: 50 tonnes. Morning.—Higher grade cash was barely steady at £867.0-67.50; three months £897.50-98.00. Settlement, £867.50. Sales: 21,950 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes were quiet £861.00-65.00; three months, £891.50-92.0. Settlement, £863.00. Sales, 50 tonnes.

TIN Afternoon.—Standard cash, £7140-50 a tonne; three months £7520-25. Sales, 1825 tonnes. High grade, cash £7140-50; three months £7520-25. Sales, 5 tonnes (a switch). Morning.—Standard cash £7145-50; three months £7525-26. Settlement, £7150. Sales, 1035 tonnes. High grade was idle, cash £7145-50; three months, £7525-26. Settlement, £7150. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M29.40 a picul.

LEAD Afternoon.—Cash £535.50-34.50 per tonne; three months £557.00-557.50. Sales, 5400 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £525.50-26.00; three months £538.50-39.00. Settlement £526.00. Sales, 8825 tonnes.

ZINC — Afternoon. — Cash £421.50-22.00 per tonne; three months £425.00-26.00. Sales, 1,300 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £422.00-22.50; three months £427.50-28.00. Settlement, £422.50. Sales, 7,350 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £175.05 ($312.50) a troy ounce.

SILVER — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot 378.70p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 682.00); three months 391.05p (707.30c); six months, 404.35p (733.25c); one year 430.95p (785.50c). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon. — Cash 379.5-380.0p; three months 392.00-92.5p. Sales, 50 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 379.5-80.0p; three months, 392.0-92.3p. Settlement, 380.0p. Sales, 21 lots.

ALUMINIUM — Afternoon. — Cash, £550.00-50.50 per tonne; three months £572.50-73.00. Sales, 2550 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £550.5-51.5; three months £573.00-73.50. Settlement, £551.50. Sales, 3150 tonnes, mainly carries.

NICKEL: Afternoon — Cash £2925-30 per tonne, three months £2997-99. Sales, 174 tonnes. Morning — Cash £2930-35; three months £2995-98. Settlement, £2935. Sales, 462 tonnes.

GOLD FUTURES £ per ounce. Aug £192.40-192.30; (last trade £192.25) Sept £194.40-194.20; (no trade) Oct £196.35-196.15, (no trade) Nov £198.45-198.30, (last trade £198.45); Sales 1,158 lots 36 at call tone: easier.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): May 1204-1200; July 1151-1150; Sept 1114-1113; Nov 1105-1104; Jan 1104-1102; March 1095-1090; May 1095-1075. Sales: 3,121 lots including 7 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).— May 951-952; July 973-974; Sept 1004-1005; Dec 1040-1042; March 1072-1073; May 1092-1094; July 1110-1115. Sales: 4080 lots including one option.

SUGAR.—the London daily price of "raws" was £1 lower at £119.00; the "whites" price was £6 lower at £145.00. Futures (£ per tonne): Aug 125.75-125.85; Oct 131.50-131.50; Jan 134.00-135.00; March 142.40-142.50; May 145.50-146.00; Aug 150.25-151.00; Oct 154.00-156.00; sales: 5,325 lots of 50 tonnes each. ISA prices (May 4): daily 8.35c; 15-day average 9.05c.

GRAIN. (The Baltic). — **WHEAT.** — Canadian western red spring no. 1 13½ unquoted. US dark northern spring no. 1 14 per cent second half May — first half June £115; June £114; July £112.50 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter 13½ per cent unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob May £124 seller Ipswich.

MAIZE. — US/French unquoted. S. African white/yellow May/June £90.50 seller S African yellow.

BARLEY. — English feed fob June £119.50 Dunness. Aug £107 Dunness; Oct £109.75 seller July/Aug £106.50 paid South Coast East Coast. All cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). — EEC origin. — **BARLEY.** May, £115.70; Sept, £104.40; Nov, £108.15; Jan, £112.15; March £115.45. Sales: 125 lots. **WHEAT:** May, £120.75; July, £124.40; Sept, £108.55; Nov, £112.30; Jan, £116.40; March, £120.00. Sales: 119 lots.

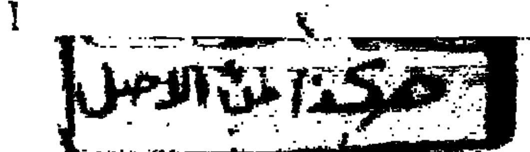
MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 5. GB Cattle 102.49p per kg lw (+1.50). UK Sheep 221.75p per kg est dcw (+6.96). GB Pigs 73.35p per kg lw (+1.30).

England and Wales: Cattle nos down 5.3 per cent, ave. price 103.08p (+2.15). Sheep nos up 30.1 per cent, ave. price 222.75p (+5.04). Pig nos down 12.5 per cent, ave. price 73.33p (+1.30).

Scotland: Cattle nos up 11.3 per cent, ave. price 100.85p (−0.34). Sheep nos down 48.6 per cent, ave. price 207.37p (+10.51). Pig nos 000 per cent.

GAS OIL: May 294.25-95.00; June 287.50-87.75; July 281.30-82.25; Aug 283.00-87.50; Oct 290.00-90.25; Nov 291.00-95.00; Dec 293.00-300.00; Jan 295.00-305.00. Total volume 3198.

EUROSYNDICAT: the Eurosyndicat index on European share prices was put provisionally at 140.72 on May 4 against 140.93 a week earlier.



APPOINTMENTS

Three join central TSB board

Mr Neville R Barkes, chairman TSB North East, Mr Kenneth A Millichap, chairman TSB North West and Mr Peter J Cook, general manager TSB Wales & Border Counties have been made directors of Central Trustee Savings Bank (CTSB).

Mr Tom Mayer is the new president of the Electronic Engineering Association. Mr Mayer is chairman and managing director of Thorn EMI Electronics.

Mr Roy Haines has been appointed to the new position of deputy treasurer of National Westminster Bank's International Banking Division.

Mr Dennis Webb has been promoted to finance director and company secretary of the Charles Clark Motor Group after eight years as group chief accountant.

Mr Joe Diedrich has been named as president of PHH International, a wholly-owned subsidiary of PHH Group Incorporated.

Mr John Skeffington has become a director of Cayzer, Irvine Shipping.

Mr B. Rombough has been appointed chief executive officer of PanCanadian Petroleum. Mr Robert R Campbell, formally chairman and chief executive officer, will continue as chairman.

Mr Dermot de Trafford, deputy chairman of Low & Bonar is to become chairman of the group on June 1.

Mr Yves Bonavero has joined the partnership of E. D. & F. Man.

Mr Gordon Wileman of Nestlé has been elected treasurer of the Automatic Vending Association of Great Britain. Mr Ian Plummer of City Vending has been reelected chairman of the association. Mr Roger Thomas of Mars Money Systems Division and Mr Mike Belton of Lin Pac Plastic Containers, have been elected to the association's board of management.

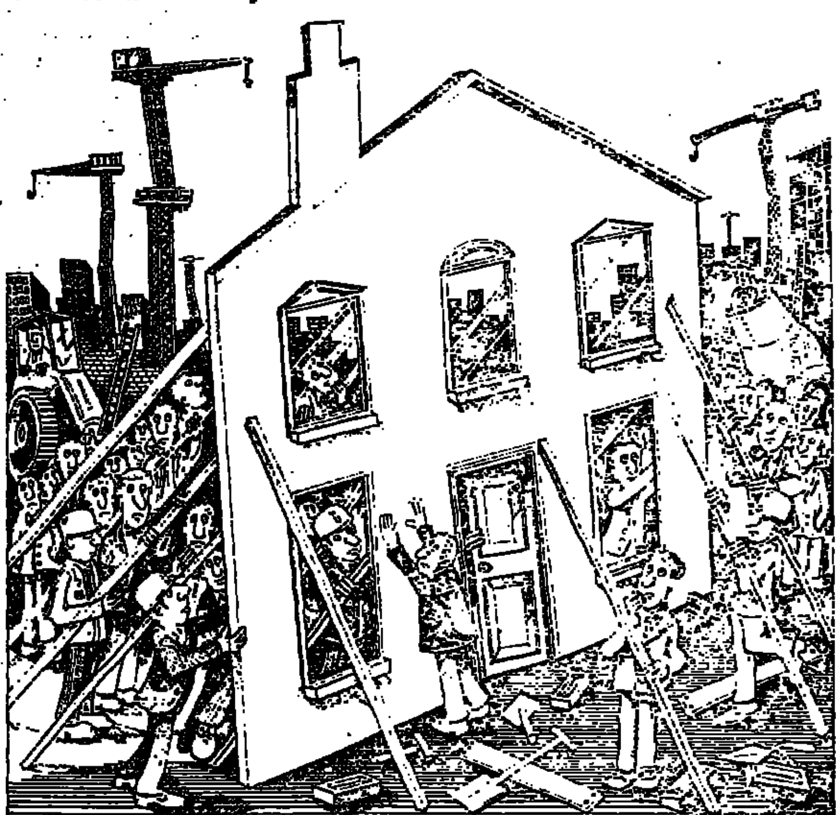
Mr J. A. Club will become executive vice president of the British Scrap Federation on June 1, succeeding Mr R. S. Boast who will be a consultant to the federation.

Mr Jack Watmough has retired from the boards of Watmoughs Limited and Bridge Graphics. He will remain deputy chairman of Watmoughs (Holdings). Mr Colin Maughan becomes deputy chairman of Watmoughs Limited. Mr Douglas Greaves has retired from the boards of Watmoughs (Holding) and D. H. Greaves. He will become a consultant to Watmoughs (Holding).

Mr Leonard Humphrey, managing director of Humphrey Scaffolding (Brighton), has been elected president of the National Association of Scaffolding Contractors.

Construction: the slow build-up

A series of better-than-expected profits from publicly-quoted construction companies and relatively buoyant house-building statistics have fuelled optimism about a recovery in the industry. Much of the sector — generally thought to be a bell-wether for the economy — is still however suffering from a deep recession with little immediate hope of relief. Baron Phillips assesses the state of the industry.



Channel tunnels and the odd power station apart there is little to cheer Britain's hard-pressed construction industry. Cutbacks in North Sea oil development and public sector spending have all taken their toll on previously ambitious plans.

Regarded as a reliable economic barometer, most parts of the industry are showing few immediate signs of recovery. Yet within the gloom which has threatened to suffocate builders a few glimmers of light can be seen breaking through the swelling ranks of unemployed construction workers and idle equipment.

Housebuilding in particular is at last on the increase. Figures released today by the Department of the Environment will show a continuing rise in the number of houses being built.

There is also evidence of improving performance by major companies. Recently Tarmac produced results ahead of market expectations with pretax profits advancing by some 19 per cent to a record £52.1m on turnover only marginally ahead at £918m.

The downside of all this is that while the building groups are looking fitter, albeit leaner, material suppliers and producers are still convalescing. Blue Circle, for example, points out how producer's margins have been under extreme pressure during the last year or so.

And the interim workload survey from the civil engineering contractors does not exactly paint a picture of health, vitality and optimism. The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors quarterly report indicates that workload continues to decline although at a slower rate than the industry has become accustomed to since the late 1970s. What precious little confidence actually exists in among major companies is almost exclusively among those tendering for repair and maintenance contracts.

Perhaps surprisingly, when seen against the background of company results, total output in the construction industry declined by about 12 per cent last year. A level which, according to one of the leading construction analysts Savory Milln, will be maintained in the current year.

What has saved most construction groups from turning in disappointing figures has been a lower inflation rate in the industry than had been originally forecast. Most contractors had budgeted for fairly hefty rises in labour and material costs in 1981 — something which did not happen. With the exception of roof tiles most materials increased by less than the general rate of inflation.

But as Savory Milln point out the official figures disguise many of the massive discounts offered by suppliers and producers in order to maintain volume and keep down stock levels. Although official brick prices rose by around 13 per cent in 1981 the actual increase paid by end users was very much less. So, in a sense contractors were cushioned from the full effects of a poor construction year.

The gravity-defying act performed by contractors in 1981 is unlikely to continue in 1982-83. Tender prices declined by about one per cent last year — and as the civil engineers survey points out, there are fewer invitations to tender — which would come through in company results over the next two years.

Perhaps more important will be the pressure from producers and suppliers to increase their margins and ease the financial noose which has been hanging around their necks. There is a distinct feeling within the industry that it is bracing itself for some fairly hefty price rises during the year. And of course, just as the real decline in costs was disguised last year, so official increases in 1982 are likely to be modified.

At the same time construction projects have been hitting deadlines with greater frequency. Rising unemployment in the industry has meant a freely available and willing workforce on tap. This has also had the effect of keeping wage rises in line with inflation at worst and a lot lower at best. Buildings going up quicker have had the effect of keeping finance charges under control.

Against this background at least one sector of the industry is leading the charge into long term healthier profits. In 1980 private sector housing hit an all-time low with starts around 96,000 despite a buoyant property market. Last year saw house builders begin construction on 21 per cent more homes and this year the figure is likely to rise to about 135,000, although more optimistic industry pundits believe it may be as much as 140,000. There is even expected to be an increase in the amount of local authority housing from last year's 36,000 units to around 40,000.

HOUSEBUILDING
'000 units

1973	328.5	1978	264.7
1974	252.1	1979	225.2
1975	322.9	1980	154.0
1976	325.4	1981	153.2
1977	266.9	1982	175.0*

* Projection
Source: Housing Builders Federation

This trend is underlined in the Department of the Environment's latest construction orders figures. Total orders for new work in the three months to February were similar to the previous quarter but 4 per cent lower than than the same period a year ago. Hidden within the Government statistics was the surprising trend of public housing work which was ahead by 11 per cent over the earlier three months and a staggering 78 per cent higher than a year ago.

The recovery however is from an abysmally low level. Money allocated for this work has crashed dramatically from £951m (at constant 1975 seasonally adjusted prices) in 1978 to only £342m last year. This has been the direct result of Government policy to switch housing resources away from the public to private sector.

Construction companies continue to be extremely concerned about falling orders from the public sector. Although the Chancellor announced a 14 per cent increase capital expenditure to more than £10,250m in the Budget the industry believed it was an almost meaningless rise because it was from a low base and because there has been a growing reluctance on the part of local authorities to spend money.

It is estimated that as much as £700m is kept in local authority coffers which could be available for new public works. But this money is unlikely to find its way into capital expenditure account as councils are eager to keep down current costs.

It is volume housebuilders like Barratt Developments, Wimpey, Tarma Ideal and Bovis who can expect improved activity and profits during the present year. The sector has already undergone a major shake up as high interest rates, falling prices and soaring unemployment destroyed complacency. For the first time builders had to go out and sell houses rather than simply build them and wait for buyers to walk on to a site.

The other glimmer on the horizon is the amount of repair and maintenance work available for companies. According to Savory Milln the outturn in this sector in 1981-82 is estimated to be £1,850m and should rise to just under £2,000m in the present year. These figures of course relate to publicly accounted contracts covering major works, but the real figure is thought to be around the £3,800m level when the less easily definable private housing repair and maintenance work is included.

Overseas the general picture is equally gloomy. Falling oil prices have meant a drastic reduction of spending on capital projects by Opec members, especially in the Middle East, Nigeria and Mexico. As our major construction and civil engine ring groups like Costain and Taylor Woodrow have discovered, they must search farther afield for work and competition is becoming extremely intense as the world recession bites hard.

Even so companies like Tarmac illustrate that there is work on the international market and that it can be profitable. Materials producers such as Blue Circle received a major contribution to profits from its international division with substantial uplift coming from its operation in North America. On the home front the group is looking for further redundancies which will lop about 30 per cent of its workforce since the start of the last financial year.

The worst may be over for the construction industry, but there is unlikely to be any serious rise in business over the next 18 months.

C. Gordon Tether

When the tail wags the dog

There is a growing demand for an inquiry into the implications for the world's financial health of the massive foreign debts some countries have been encouraged to build up by the enthusiasm of the banking community for lending them money. But the probe into the sudden indebtedness issue should not stop here.

It should also look at a closely related question. It concerns tendency for the fast rise in debt totals to create situations where the need to give priority to financial consideration in policymaking is such that the international financial tail is apt to be found wagging the international political dog.

It was reported last week that influential members of Congress, including Mr Henry Reuss, chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, were calling for hearings on the "ability of the banks to make large international loans without seriously undermining the world's financial structure".

Many commentators in this country have been making the same point — that the time may have come to impose restraints on the lending activities of the banking community.

What has attracted much less attention is the extent to which the banks' lending excesses are beginning to complicate the political decision-making process

Vocal

It has to be said that there have been two occasions in recent years on which officialdom showed no willingness to allow international financial considerations to deter it from pursuing political purposes. The United States authorities established a "discussion exclusion zone" round their decision to freeze Iranian assets in retaliation for the seizure of the embassy hostages.

The British authorities have acted in exactly the same way in the Falklands crisis.

But there has not been the same readiness to exclude the foreign indebtedness factor from the debate on what attitude the West could most appropriately adopt towards the international political issues raised by events in Poland. The financial communities on both sides of the Atlantic have been vocal about the embarrassment the Western financial system could cause if political considerations alone were allowed to dictate the West's reaction to Poland's foreign debts problem.

There are good grounds for thinking that in this instance the agitation achieved its purpose. It seems pretty clear that Western governments have been willing to help the Polish military regime cope with its foreign debts problems to a materially greater extent than they would have been if there had not been the major intervention in the matter by the international financial lobby.

Freezes

Mr Henry Wallich, one of the top men in the American central banks hierarchy, recently said that, if the United States declared Poland in default for purely political reasons, it would set a precedent that could do widespread damage to the mechanisms of international credit. Following such a move, banks would have to be concerned that international credit had become "a pawn of political purpose".

It has to be conceded that the freezes imposed on the use of Iranian and Argentine assets did constitute cases of international credit being made "a pawn of political purpose". But it is certainly arguable that the attitude that has been adopted towards the Polish debts problem involves the exact opposite of that process. By being careful not to push the Poles into default for fear of the repercussions this might have on the world's monetary system, the Western countries were effectively making political purpose a pawn of international credit.

The moral of the Polish debts story is, indeed, that the greater the extent to which the international banking community is allowed to encourage countries to build up large foreign debts, the greater will be the influence on the conduct of world affairs exercised by the international financial community. This is clearly something we need to think deeply about while there is yet time.

Sketchley bids for US firm

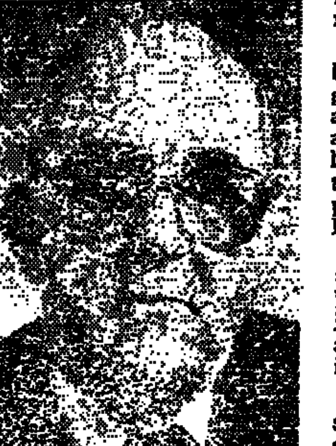
Just a few days after its bid for Means, the American cleaning company, was defeated, Sketchley has offered $13m (£7m) cash for Rentex another American cleaning and rental business.

Mr Gerald Wightman, Sketchley's chairman, said that the offer for Rentex had been consifered before the unsuccessful attempt on Means. The offer for Means was worth more than $40m. The new offer prices Rentex, a public company, at $13 a share.

The bid for Means was defeated by the higher offer from another American company, ARA Services, but Sketchley is less likely to be thwarted this time. About 58 per cent of the Rentex equity is controlled by the Gitlow family, which has agreed to sell. Under the laws of the state of Delaware, in which Rentex is incorporated, Sketchley may compulsorily take over the remainder.

Rentex rents workwear and linen to businesses and hospitals in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, California, Florida and Oregon. Its headquarters are in Philadelphia.

During the year to the end of last November, Rentex had a net income of $1.2m from revenues of $38.7m. Shareholders' funds came to $12.6m. Mr Wightman said that the company had a consistent growth record, and good management.


Wightman: consistent growth record

Sketchley's opportunities in Britain are limited by monopolies legislation. Mr Wightman said that Sketchley would pump extra funds into Rentex. The possibilities for providing a cleaning and rental service to large customers, such as hospitals, were particularly attractive.

Doors open for Henderson

Tight control of costs and working capital helped industrial door manufacturer P C Henderson raise pretax profits by 70 per cent to £2.48m in the year to February in spite of almost no real increase in sales.

Dividends for the year are being increased from 11.42p gross to 14.28p a share, with a 10.35p final distribution against the 10p minimum level forecast by the board at the time of February's £4.9m purchase of Normand Electrical.

Normand, which manufactures electric motors, was loss making at the time, but it has returned to profitability with demand improving for its products.

Henderson's traditional sliding door gear and garage door divisions performed well during the year and a strong performance from subsidiaries in New Zealand, Norway and South Africa boosted the overseas contribution to profits from 19 per cent to 29 per cent.

But the industrial door division again experienced shrinking demand in the United Kingdom and earned a lower return on capital in the past year.

The improved profits and stock reductions generated a positive cash flow of more than £2m. After adjustment for the cash element of the Normand purchase year end borrowings were less than 20 per cent of shareholders funds.

Since the year end the purchase of Normand has been completed and the executive teams of both groups are working at realizing the potential of the merger.


Tom Cowie: better returns

Cowie Group recovers

Cowie Group, the Sunderland-based motor dealer and credit finance company led by Mr Tom Cowie, has recovered in the half year to March, with pretax profits of £311,000 against losses of £195,000 last time. For the full year to September 1981, profits reached only £334,000.

Pressure on motor vehicle margins remained severe, though volumes had held up relatively well Mr Cowie said yesterday. In the half year group sales were £44m—the same as the first six months of the previous year. Sales for the year to September 1981 were £91m. The period as a whole had continued to be difficult, he said, but the group was reaping the benefits of last year's rationalization.

The motor division saw a better performance as a result of his reorganization, and not through any improvement in overall trading conditions, he said. Full year profitabilty was expected in the coach and travel division after a dramatic turnaround from last year, and even the hard-pressed agricultural division was showing signs of full year profitability, he said.

Milletts improve

Milletts Leisure Shops, the Northampton-based high street retailer increased pretax profits from £840,000 to £915,000, for the year to February 1982 despite a severe fall in the trading profit to £327,000 from £605,000. This figure was after increased interest and depreciation charges as well as a £20,000 loss from the group's associate company.

Mr Alan Millett, chairman, said the second half year had shown a considerable improvement over the first half when profits slumped to £96,000 from £306,000.

Sales for the year moved ahead to £17.7m against £16.6m last time. In the first half new shops were opened or resited

In the second half another new shop was opened in Cardiff. The board says the cycle of the company's capital expansion programme was substantially completed during the year.

On the stock market, second half recovery and a maintained final dividend of 5.7p gross, making a total payout of 9.9p gross, boosted the share price 3p to 101p.

Cindico over the counter

Dealings start today on the over-the-counter market made by M J H Nightingale in the shares of Cindico, the nursery equipment manufacturer, after the placing of 700,000 shares (44 per cent of the equity) with leading institutions at 240p a share.

Cindico was founded in 1962 by Mr Richard Downs, its present chairman, since when its range of nursery products has been considerably expanded, with sales rising from £1.94m in 1976 to £6.5m in 1981.

Pretax profits in that period have risen seven-fold from £83,000 to £573,000, and with further improvements in the present year the directors are forecasting £725,000 pretax for 1982, with an interim dividend of 5.85p gross in September and a final distribution of 11.71p per share in May next year.

At the placing price that represents a gross yield of 11 per cent on an annualized basis and an historic price/earnings multiple of 13.8 times or 10.9 times forecast fully taxed earnings. It capitalizes the group at £3.8m.

The group had chosen the option of a quote on the OTC Market after comparing the cost with that of seeking a full Stock Exchange listing or a quotation on the Unlisted Securities Market, and because it meant the shares being placed with people interested in the long term future of the company, Mr Downs said.

The group hopes to increase its share of the nursery equipment market which has shown an annual compound growth rate of 21 per cent since 1976 to an estimated £70m in 1981. It is the fastest growing area of the baby goods industry and is expected to continue to grow as the birth rate increases.

Brixton record

Brixton Estate made record profits of £6 134m pretax for 1981, an advance of 56 per cent from last year's £3.923m, helped by a substantial number of rent reviews and reversions. The chairman is forecasting a similar rise this year as further reviews fall due on the group's extensive industrial property portfolio.

BIDS AND DEALS

Datasolve, now a Thorn EMI company has announced agreement in principle with Control Data Corporation to take over the greater part of its bureau business known as Call/Plus in the United Kingdom.

The deal represents for Datasolve a valuable addition to its customer base which the company will be able eventually to incorporate into its existing operations based at Sunbury-on-Thames. Although the transfer does not include the acquisition of premises or machines, Datasolve has agreed to offer continuous employment to all CDC staff affected.

As a result of disposal by Crown Agents of its Australian properties the Australian subsidiary of Capital and Counties will receive approximately A$8.1m in final settlement for sale of its Australian assets to Crown Agents in 1976.

Feedex has agreed to purchase from Mr F. and Mrs M J. Whaler the whole of the assets of their partnership business (other than cash) for £124,523, plus stock at valuation (£50,000) and book debts at April 30, 1982 (estimated £35,000).

Whaler are manufacturers and installers of ventilation equipment for the agricultural industry and as such the business is compatible with the existing livestock and engineering divisions of Feedex Strength of Feedex in this sector of the market should provide considerable scope to expand and develop the business.

Thames Inv and Secs Co has completed its retail warehouse on the Duffryn industrial estate at Caerphilly. The store was pre-let to B and O retail, the D-I-Y subsidiary of F. W Woolworth. Woolworth have taken a 35-year lease subject to 5 year rent reviews at a commencing rental of £87,500 pa. Thames will retain the investment within its portfolio

WALL STREET

New York, May 5 — Stock prices moved higher in early trading as investors largely disregarded the Falklands crisis.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up about 2¾, advances led declines by three to two and volume totalled some 9m shares.

Analysts said the market seems determined to rally, possibly because Wall Street is beginning to anticipate an econominc upturn sometime this summer

Some investors were encouraged by the Government report that the nation's first quarter merchandize balance of payments deficit narrowed to $5,950m from $9,150m in the fourth quarter

On the trading floor, K Mart was the most active issue, up ⅛ to 18⅞ with a block of 680,000 shares at 19. Mobil was second up ¾ to 22. Storage Tech was third, off 2 at 22⅞

Prices were higher in active trading of Amex issues.

	May 4	May 3
Allied Chem	33¼	34
Allied Stores	31½	31¼
Allis Chalmers	14¾	14½
Alcoa	24½	25
Amax Inc	25⅞	27¼
Amerada Hess	19⅝	19⅞
Am Airlines	14¾	14¾
Am Brands	42⅝	42⅝
Am Broadcast	38	38½
Am Can	28⅝	28⅜
Am Cyanamid	28⅞	28⅝
Am Elec Power	17	17⅞
Am Home	37⅛	36⅞
Am Motors	3⅞	3⅞
Am Nat Res	34⅞	34⅝
Am Standard	28¾	27
Am Telephone	54⅞	54½
AMF Inc	16⅞	17¼
Armco Steel	18	19¼
Asarco	19⅞	20¼
Ashland Oil	22½	22¾
Atlantic Richfield	38⅞	38
Avco	18⅞	18⅞
Avon Products	23⅝	23⅞
Bankers Tst NY	32⅞	33¼
Bank of America	18⅞	18⅝
Bank of NY	39½	39½
Beatrice Foods	19⅝	19¼
Bendix	54⅛	53⅜
Bethlehem Steel	22¾	22⅜
Boeing	19⅛	18½
Boise Cascade	28⅛	28½
Borden	32⅞	33¼
Borg Warner	28	29
Bristol Myers	55⅞	57¼
BP	22⅝	22⅛
Burlington Ind	22	22⅝
Burlington Nthn	49⅛	48⅞
Burroughs	36⅞	35⅞
Campbell Soup	37	38⅛
Canadian Pacific	29¼	29½
Caterpillar	43⅞	45
Celanese	58½	58½
Central Soya	11½	11⅞
Chase Manhat	53¾	54
Chem Bank NY	34	34½
Chrysler	6⅝	6¼
Citicorp	28⅛	28⅞
Cities Service	35⅞	35⅝
Clark Equip	20⅞	20⅞
Coca Cola	36⅛	35⅞
Colgate	18½	18¼
CBS	43⅛	42
Columbia Gas	31⅞	31¼
Combustion Eng	27	26⅞
Comwlth Edison	21⅞	21⅞
Cons Edison	17⅞	17⅞
Cons Foods	35⅞	35½
Cons Power	17⅛	17⅞
Continental Grp	28⅛	28
Control Data	30⅞	30⅛
Corning Glass	48	47⅞
CPC Intnl	37⅛	37⅛
Crane	25⅛	25⅞
Crocker Int	28	28⅞
Crown Zeller	21⅞	22
Dart & Kraft	53½	53½
Deere	30	29⅞
Delta Air	31⅛	30⅞
Detroit Edison	12⅞	12⅞
Disney	57⅛	57
Dow Chemical	22⅞	22⅞
Dresser Ind	21	20⅞
Duke Power	22⅞	22⅞
Du Pont	35⅞	35⅞
Eastern Air	6	6
Eastman Kodak	72⅛	71½
Eaton Corp	28⅞	30⅛
El Paso Nat Gas	23⅛	23⅞
Equitable Life	8⅞	8⅞
Esmark	45⅞	45⅞
Evans P. D.	8½	10
Exxon Corp	28½	28½
Fed Dept Stores	44	43½
Firestone	10⅞	10⅞

	May 4	May 3
Fst Chicago	18⅛	18⅞
Fst Intst Bncp	28⅛	28⅞
Fst Nat Boston	28⅞	25⅞
Fst Penn Corp	3⅝	3⅞
Ford	24⅞	23⅞
GAF Corp	12⅞	12⅞
Gen Dynamics	30⅛	29⅞
Gen Electric	65⅞	64⅞
Gen Foods	37⅞	36⅞
Gen Mills	42⅛	41⅞
Gen Motors	43⅛	42⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	5⅛	5¼
Gen Tel Elec	30⅞	30⅛
Gen Tire	18⅞	18⅛
Genesco	4⅞	4⅛
Georgia Pacific	16⅞	16⅞
Getty Oil	51	50
Gillette	35⅞	34⅞
Goodrich	19⅞	19⅞
Goodyear	23⅞	23⅞
Gould Inc	26⅞	26⅛
Grace	38⅛	38⅞
Gt Atlc & Pacific	6	6
Greyhound	14⅞	14⅞
Grumman Corp	25⅛	25⅛
Gulf Oil	30½	30⅛
Gulf & West	15⅞	15⅞
Heinz H. J.	33⅞	33⅞
Hercules	21⅞	21
Honeywell	73	70⅞
IC Inds	30	30⅞
Ingersoll	50	50
Inland Steel	19⅛	20
IBM	64⅞	64½
Int Harvester	5⅛	4⅞
INCO	10⅞	10⅞
Int Paper	37⅞	38⅞
Int Tel Tel	25⅞	25⅞
Irving Bank	41	41⅛
Jewel Co	34⅞	34⅞
Jim Walter	19⅛	18⅞
Johnson & John	41⅞	40⅞
Kaiser Alumin	12⅞	12⅞
Kerr McGee	30⅞	31
Kimberly Clark	63⅞	62⅞
K Mart	18⅞	18⅞
Kroger	31⅛	30⅞
L.T.V. Corp	14	14⅛
Litton	47⅞	48⅞
Lockheed	55⅞	54⅛
Lucky Stores	15⅞	15
Manuf Hanover	31⅛	31⅛
Manville Cp	13⅞	13⅞
Mapco	30⅛	31
Marine Midland	22⅞	22⅛
Martin Marietta	30⅞	28⅞
McDonnell	38	38⅞
Mead	20⅛	20⅛
Merck	77	76⅞
Minnesota Mng	55⅞	55⅛
Mobil Oil	21⅞	21⅞
Monsanto	66⅞	66⅛
Morgan J. P.	55⅞	56⅞
Motorola	64⅛	62⅞
NCR Corp	49⅞	50
NL Industries	24⅞	24⅞
Nabisco	34⅞	34⅞
Nat Distillers	22	22⅞
Nat Med Ent	16	15⅞
Nat Steel	18⅞	18⅞
Norfolk West	51	50⅞
NW Bancorp	21⅞	22⅛
Norton Simon	20⅞	20⅞
Occidental Pet	19½	19½
Ogden	25⅞	25½
Olin Corp	21⅞	21⅞
Owens-Illinois	26⅛	25⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	23⅞	23⅞
Pan Am	4⅛	3⅞
Penney J. C.	35⅛	35⅞
Pennzoil	38⅛	38⅛
Pepsico	39	38½
Pfizer	56⅞	56⅞
Phelps Dodge	25	25⅞
Philip Morris	51⅞	51⅛

	May 4	May 3
Phillips Petrol	30⅞	31
Polaroid	20	18⅞
PPG Ind	34	32½
Proctor Gamble	86⅞	86
Pub Ser El & Gas	21⅞	21⅞
Raytheon	38½	38
RCA Corp	20⅞	21½
Republic Steel	20	19⅞
Reynolds Ind	49⅞	48⅞
Reynolds Metal	19⅞	19⅞
Rockwell Int	31⅞	30⅞
Royal Dutch	29⅞	29⅞
Safeways	28⅞	28⅞
St Regis Paper	26½	26⅞
Santa Fe Ind	15⅞	15⅞
SCM	23	23⅞
Schlumberger	47½	46⅞
Scott Paper	17⅞	17⅞
Seagram	53⅞	53⅞
Sears Roebuck	19⅞	19⅞
Shell Oil	35⅞	35⅞
Shell Trans	29⅞	29⅞
Signal Co	19½	20½
Singer	13½	13⅞
Sony	14⅞	14⅞
Sth Cal Edison	32⅞	32⅞
Southern Pacific	33½	33⅞
Southern Rly	96½	95½
Sperry Corp	28⅞	27⅞
Std Oil Califrnia	30⅞	30⅞
Std Oil Indiana	43	42
Std Oil Ohio	34⅞	34⅞
Sterling Drug	24	24½
Stevens J. P.	16⅞	16½
Sun Comp	35⅞	36
Teledyne	123⅞	123⅞
Tenneco	26⅞	26⅞
Texaco	30	29⅞
Texas East Corp	49⅛	49
Texas Inst	91	91
Texas Utilities	23⅞	23½
Textron	22⅞	22⅞
TWA	21⅞	20⅞
Travelers Corp	47⅞	47
TRW Inc	51⅞	51⅞
UAL Inc	19	19⅞
Union Carbide	47	47
Union Oil Calif	33½	34
Un Pacific Corp	37⅞	36⅞
Uniroyal	8⅛	8
United Brands	11⅞	10⅞
US Industries	9⅞	10
US Steel	23½	23⅞
Utd Technol	38⅛	37⅞
Wachovia	25½	25½
Warner Lambert	24	24
Wells Fargo	22½	22⅞
Westnghse Elec	26⅛	25⅞
Weyerhauser	27⅛	27⅞
Whirlpool	28½	28⅞
Woolworth	19⅞	20
Xerox Corp	35	34⅞
Zenith	14⅛	14½

Canadian Prices

	May 4	May 3
Abitibi	16	16
Alcan Alumin	23½	23⅞
Algoma Steel	32	33
Bell Telephone	20	19⅞
Cominco	39⅛	40⅛
Cons Bathurst	14⅛	14
Gulf Oil	13⅞	13½
Hawker/Sid Can	8½	8½
Hudson Bay Min	16⅛	16⅛
Imasco	40	40
Imperial Oil	22⅞	22⅞
Int Pipe	16⅞	16⅞
Mass.-Ferguson	2⅞	3⅛
Royal Trust	14	14
Seagram	65½	65⅞
Steel Co	19½	18⅞
Thomson N 'A'	20⅛	20⅛
Walker Hiram	15⅞	15⅞
WCT	12⅛	13½

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Benefits of change

In his statement to shareholders, Sir Anthony Tuke said:

"Multinationals have been subjected to a great deal of criticism over the past few years, much of it ideological in origin and much of it is ill-informed. It is, however, right that corporations should review their responsibilities and make certain that their policies are correct and in tune with current thinking. It is not enough for international companies to shelter behind the laws of the country in which they invest; their responsibilities go beyond that. No government would, however, accept a foreign investor who deliberately stated his intention of flouting the laws of the land and the OECD guidelines for multinational corporations specifically enjoin those corporations to obey the laws of the countries where they operate.

If a corporation finds local conditions and attitudes unacceptable it has the option of refraining from investing in that country as it would do if the fiscal and financial climate were not sufficiently attractive. Withdrawing from an existing operation is much more difficult and may achieve little as local investors could take it over, maybe with less internationally acceptable standards and policies.

Any foreign investor has a clear responsibility to its employees and their families and, in the case of a mining company, to the local community, especially the indigenous population. The question both we as investors and the people who will be affected by a new operation must ask is, whether the benefits of a major investment outweigh the disadvantages change may bring.

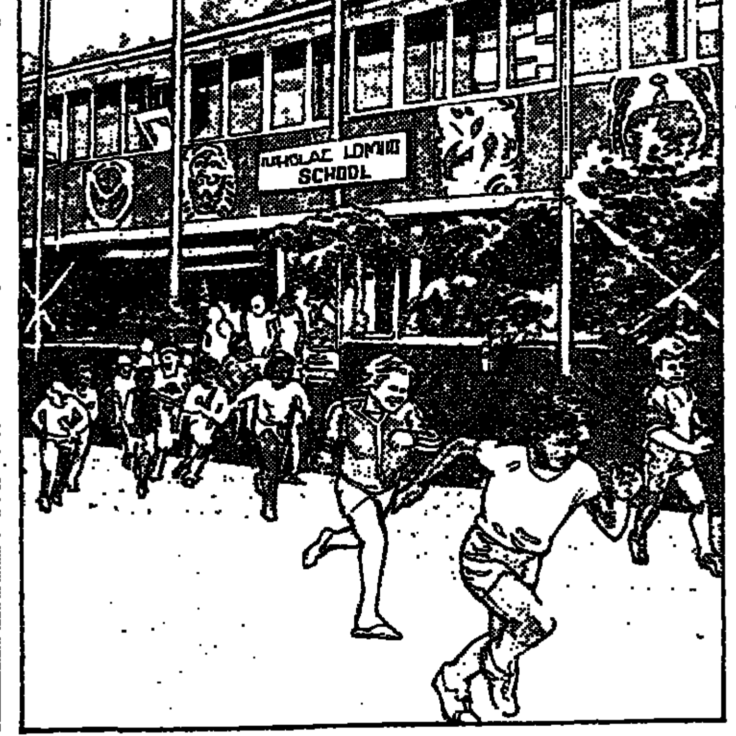
We do believe that the advantages overwhelmingly outweigh the disadvantages as we see the rising standards of living in the areas where we operate. These are evidenced by the high quality of housing, education, health and medical care, training and opportunity for advancement, as well as benefits to the wider community, especially in third world countries, of new sources of revenue and foreign exchange, together with educational and training opportunities from the independent foundations that have been established locally from the profits earned.



Growing vegetables in the back garden is one of the new skills taught by the Rössing Foundation to families in Namibia.



The highest standards of medical care are provided at group activities, particularly in less developed areas.



Educational opportunities at all levels for employees, their families and the wider community are an integral part of our operations.

Australianisation

Some three years ago we agreed that the majority Australian ownership in CRA should be achieved over a period through the reduction of our interest to 49 per cent. This change in our shareholding will take place in the context of sound commercial development and investment and at that level our investment will have expanded in dollar terms. The authorities in Australia have been helpful and we are not under any pressure. We anticipate that during the next few years the RTZ interest will fall to 49 per cent but we do not expect any material change in the profits available to shareholders from Australia.

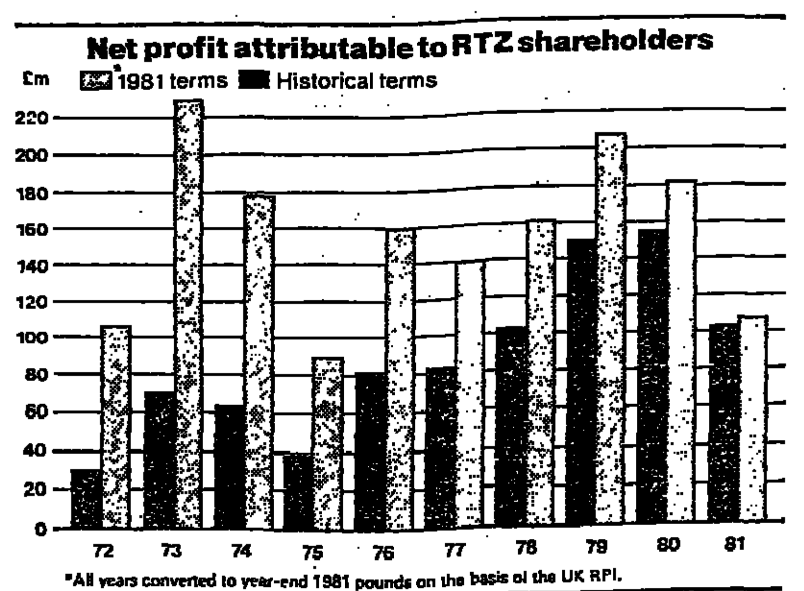
Ward and Tunnel

One of the reasons for the 1980 rights issue was to enable the corporation to expand its activities in this country. The cement industry is in some ways similar to the mining industry and our successful offer for Ward brought with it control of Tunnel: the subsequent bid for Tunnel at an agreed price has become unconditional. The management of RTZ regard the bringing together of these two important companies as a priority during the next few months.

Future Outlook

In some respects the economic forecasts of early 1982 are similar to those made a year ago but there is reason to believe last year's dismal pattern will not be repeated. Past experience suggests that prices would be unlikely to remain as weak for an extended period even if demand were to stagnate throughout the year. Hence any modest revival of final demand, or any improvement in business confidence, should fairly swiftly affect metal markets and the RTZ Group's low cost mines would benefit accordingly."

Anthony Tuke
Chairman



ZIMBABWE 0·8
OTHERS (2·1)
TAX ON DIVIDENDS (23·8)
EUROPE 4·6
S.AFRICA 5·3
PAPUA NEW GUINEA 4·6
CANADA 14·7
U.K. 29·3
NAMIBIA 21·4
U.S.A 42·3
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND 5·2
£102·3MILLIONS
TAX ON DIVIDENDS (23·8)
EXPLORATION & RESEARCH (36·9)
MISCELLANEOUS 4·4
STEEL/TIN/OTHER 20·1
COAL & OIL 11·9
LEAD & ZINC 7·4
IRON ORE 6·5
URANIUM 31·1
ALUMINIUM 18·9
COPPER & GOLD 6·5
BORAX & CHEMICALS 56·1
£102·3MILLIONS

Profit earners for RTZ shareholders

If you would like a copy of the full RTZ annual report please write to: Group Public Affairs Department, 6 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LD.

Fact sheets on various aspects of the corporation's activities will be available from 3rd June.



The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation PLC

Financial disruption could spread beyond Argentina

Latin America piles up debts

In just two years time, the economic forecast for the South American and central American nations has turned from bright to bleak as the world recession has cut into exports and political unrest in a number of countries has escalated.

Now that there is the threat of a costly and possibly prolonged war involving Argentina, conditions in these closely-linked developing nations are all the more uncertain.

If the British naval blockade is extended for example, there could be severe economic consequences in other countries.

This is just one of a number of unsettling possibilities being considered by officials in international landing organizations at present reviewing the sharp deterioration in the economies of countries south of the United States border.

The Falklands conflict has spotlighted economic problems in this part of the world as it has become apparent to international lenders that a huge financial disruption in one country such as Argentina could have an adverse effect on several others.

At present, there are several Latin American countries whose short term debt exposure worries World Bank and International Monetary Fund officials. They agreed to be interviewed by *The Times* on a background only basis.

Mexico, for example, which was riding high on oil revenues until just a year ago is being cut off by big banks worried by its short-term debt load, and unwilling to make new loans there.

Argentina's shaky financial position has been well publicized, but less well known are the economic problems of once-booming countries such as Chile and Peru which have raging inflation and sharply declining exports.

Brazil's massive external debt — much of it due for repayment over the next year — has been cause for worry for some time and now even oil-rich Venezuela, faced with the world energy glut, is experiencing problems.

For many central American countries such as Costa Rica, the situation is even worse. The United States Export-Import Bank, for example, has stopped making loans there altogether because the Government has been forced to ask both private and government lenders to reschedule its debt. Again, the economic problems of the war-torn countries of El Salvador and Nicaragua are better known.

Overall, economic conditions in this part of the world are more dismal than even the present June, 1981 debt figures revealed and growing worse daily, in the opinion of a Latin American specialist with the United States Commerce Department.

Debts of Latin American and Central American countries, June, 1981, in millions of dollars

Country	Total claims	Claims On: Banks	Public bo'wers	Other private	Maturity of Claims: 1 year or less	1 to 5	Over 5
Argentina	7483.3	-2464.7	2106.9	2911.7	4861.5	1897.8	623.9
Bolivia	457.7	55.0	249.1	153.6	205.4	220.6	31.6
Brazil	15189.4	5989.5	4788.4	4411.3	6994.3	5214.8	2980.2
Chile	4701.3	2582.2	706.3	1412.8	2357.0	1506.4	837.8
Columbia	2594.6	1012.4	605.4	976.7	1769.6	470.5	354.4
Costa Rica	592.7	74.2	244.5	373.9	337.1	208.7	46.8
Dom'can Rep	489.9	122.3	271.0	96.4	286.1	183.9	19.9
Ecquador	1864.1	521.9	581.5	760.6	113.9	579.4	170.7
El Salvador	101.3	20.1	21.5	59.7	70.1	30 1	1.0
Guatemala	241.2	21.4	20.9	198.9	146.1	86.5	8.6
Honduras	274.9	24.5	80.9	169.5	173.6	86.1	15.2
Jamaica	190.4	13.0	157.1	20.3	72.0	100.9	7.5
Mexico	18101.2	3129.8	5345.6	9626.7	10697.0	4846.9	2557.2
Nicaragua	423.7	85.7	293.3	44.6	182.0	48.3	193.3
Paraguay	271.1	10.1	110.2	150.7	141.5	92.6	36.9
Peru	1783.6	702.5	811.7	269.4	1263.4	42.3	92.8
Tr'dad/Tobego	115.9	4.4	101.0	10.4	28.9	76.0	11.0
Uruguay	1188.7	1068.1	30.5	89.9	1156.1	30.4	2.2
Venezuela	20776.0	5325.2	7921.6	7529.0	14059.0	5313.5	103.3

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

The Belgian zinc producer **Vieille Montagne** has announced a sharp drop in 1981 profits to Bel Fr23m (about £266,000) from Bel Fr96m the previous year. The company attributed the fall to the shortage of ore and to a six-month strike at its Irish mine.

Mannesmann of Germany announced a 40 per cent rise in net profit to DM196m (£45.6m) in 1981 from DM140m in 1980. It is to raise its dividend to 6 marks per share from 5.50 for 1980.

consolidated group profit rose nearly 50 per cent ot DM272m from DM182m in 1980. Group sales climbed 18 per cent ot DM15,400m.

The group is planning a one-for-eight rights issue at DM125 a share. The DM310m raised by the issue will be used to improve capital structure and finance growth.

Net profit of the Australian Finance Group **Esanda** increased by 8.9 per cent to A$19m (£11.2m) for the six months ending March 31. Esanda is the wholly-owned subsidiary of ANZ Bank, one of the largest in Australia.

Thomson-Brandt, the recently nationalized electrical and electronics group, reported the first loss in its history and expects to remain in the red this year. The group said its 1981 consolidated accounts will show a loss of Fr180m (£16.4m) despite a 9.5 per cent increase in sales to Fr43,600m. The electronics offshoot, Thomson-CSF and its subsidiaries, accounted for Fr80m of the loss.

The French group, **Spie Batignolles**, announced a consolidated net profit of Fr114m (£10.4m) for 1981 against Fr91m the previous year. Parent company net profit was Fr55.6m (Fr53.5m) and the dividend has been fixed at Fr13.50 (Fr11.25).

The company is to raise its capital to Fr192.7m from Fr144.5m by a one-for-three rights issue at Fr125 a share.

Ruetgerswerke of Germany is proposing an unchanged 1981 dividend of Dm8.50 despite a 39 per cent drop in net consolidated earnings to Dm20.3m (£4.7m).

INTERNATIONAL

Car sales take a tumble

April sales by both foreign and United States car makers fell to an estimated 664,255 from an estimated 774,388 last April. Deliveries of domestic vehicles fell 6.4 per cent to 495,255 from 529,388 a year earlier.

A survey of leading importers' sales, however, shows that foreign-make sales plunged more than 21 per cent to about 169,000 vehicles from 215,000 vehicles. On a seasonally adjusted annual basis, foreign cars sold at about 1.8 million rate, their lowest rate since December 1978.

It is the importers' fourth consecutive month of sales declines. The factors depressing import sales include costs, poor economic conditions, credit shortages, and a growing petrol glut that is turning consumers away from small, fuel-efficient cars.

MALAYSIA

A slump in the Malaysian economy brought on by recession abroad led to 902 bankruptcies in 1981, the highest number in a single year. The downturn also could be traced to a shortage of capital.

WEST GERMANY

The sharp fall in West German petrol use came alongside a more modest 1.5 per cent decline in overall energy consumption. The share of overall energy sources held by petroleum products eased to 41 per cent in the first three months from a 1981 average of 44.5 per cent.

BELGIUM

The trade deficit of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU) narrowed in February to a provisional BelFr 12,100m (£140m) from a revised BelFr 30,600m in January and BelFr 30,800m in February 1981.

CHINA

China has abolished the sixth ministry of machine-building and set up a new organization to streamline its shipbuilding industry. The reorganization is part of China's ambitious drive to slash its bloated bureaucracy.

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand's balance of payments deficit was NZ$1,141m (£496m) in the year ended March 31, compared with a deficit of NZ$716m the prevous year. exports for the year rose 14 per cent.

AUSTRALIA

Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) rose 1.1 per cent in the final quarter of 1981, down from 2 per cent in the previous quarter and the year earlier quarter's 1.2 per cent.

SWITZERLAND

Swiss adjusted central bank money supply was 0.3 per cent higher in March than a year earlier.

CANADA

General Motors of Canada is to phase out 550 jobs at two of its plants in Ontario by the end of July.

Institute in Soviet oil warning

By Jonathan Davis
Energy Correspondent

Eastern European countries are likely to become significant importers of oil during the 1980s, creating a danger that the Soviet Union will adopt an aggressive policy of seeking access to Middle East oil supplies, the Royal Institute of International Affairs warned yesterday.

A paper written by Jonathan Stern for the Institute says that Eastern Europe could need to go outside the Soviet block for as much as 100 million tonnes of oil a year by the end of the decade — though the shortage of hard currency in Iron Curtain countries means that their actual demand will probably be limited to 50 million tonnes a year. This would be the minimum requirement for the maintenance of economic growth.

So far Eastern Europe has been cushioned by being able to rely on cheap subsidized oil from the Soviet Union, but Mr Stern says the ability, and willingness, of the Russians to increase their oil exports, or maintain this policy is now in doubt.

In any case, Mr Stern argues: "It is difficult to see how Eastern Europe will resolve its problems with or without the help of the USSR".

Even with lower world oil prices, East Europe's trade balances with Opec countries and the debt problems of Poland and Romania cast doubt on their ability to pay world prices for oil.

"This being the case, the acquisition of increased oil supplies for Eastern Europe may become a factor in Soviet foreign policy vis-a-vis oil producing countries", Mr Stern says — a development that is a matter for concern both for Opec countries and Western countries which take oil from the Middle East.

The Soviet Union could either opt for doing barter deals with the participants in the Iran and Iraq war once hostilities cease, Mr Stern suggests, or they could try to put pressure on Opec countries to supply oil at concessionary prices.

On the proposed controversial Soviet gas pipeline into western Europe, the Royal Institute paper dismisses fears by the United States that this will make western Europe dangerously subject to an abrupt cutoff of supplies.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds	13%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 10½%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11%, £50,000 and over 11½%.

RACING: FINAL DAY OF CHESTER MEETING

Cecil to serve up double helping

By Michael Seely

Henry Cecil's triumphant march forward should continue at Chester this afternoon when the man in form can land a double by winning the Ormonde Stakes with Critique and the Dee Stakes with Ivano.

The running of Critique and Ivano will be watched with particular interest. For these are the two colts that Cecil's principal Derby candidate, Simply Great, dealt with so summarily in a gallop at Newmarket last Saturday.

Critique appears to have the easiest task of the pair. This is a four-year-old with a great deal of ability who has shown a tendency to hang under pressure.

Baffin and Six Mile Bottom appear to be the favourite's main opponents. But in this small field Critique's finishing speed should gain him the day.

Ivano is one of Cecil's best three-year-olds. On his reappearance this season Ivano had to struggle to withstand the late attack of Noble Gift's stable companion, Electric. However, Electric did this form no harm when winning the White Rose Stakes at Ascot last week.

Some magnificent racing held the usual enormous crowd spellbound on a sunny afternoon at Chester yesterday. Dawn Johnny made ammends for his defeat in last year's Chester Cup when battling on gamely to repel the challenges of Dragon Palace and Another Sam.

Willie Carson celebrated his wedding day by riding Lord Rotherwick's home-bred filly, Swiftfoot, to a pillar-to-post victory in the Chesire Oaks.

As expected Ecstatica won the opening Sefton Maiden Fillies Stakes but only by a short head that George Ward's filly prevailed over Larla. However, Fulke Johnson Houghton's hopes of a double were dashed when Steve Cauthen drove Gavo past Dandana in the final strides of the Roodeye stakes.


Flat out: Critique a fancied contender for Chester's Ormonde Stakes

In the Chester Cup Pat Eddery made a rare tactical error by lying too far out of his ground on the 4-1 favourite Castelnau in a race that was slowly run in the early stages. When Eddery first tried to make his move he was repeatedly baulked and by the time the pair got clear the leaders had flown.

Dawn Johnny's trainer, Michael Sdroute, said afterwards: "Walter Swinburn rode a magnificent race. He had Dawn Johnny in the pole position throughout. I thought Dawn Johnny would run well as the ground had dried out. But there were too many apparently well handicapped horses to facy him seriously".

The stewards held an inquiry into the improvement made by Dawn Johnny compared with his running in the Queens prize at Kempton where Sir Gordon White's five year old had finished last behind Cheka. The authorities are right to protect the public interest. But the answer is pretty simple. The ground was soft when Dawn Johnny was an unplaced favourite behind Donegal Prince in the race last year. And it was also soft at Kempton.

Dick Hern certainly believes in coming back with a bang. Broken Rail had won in style when giving the trainer his first victory of the season on Tuesday and Swiftfoot is now top quoted at 12-1 for the Oaks after yesterday's fluent success.

Once again Hern holds a strong hand as far as the fillies classic is concerned. "Swiftfoot will go straight to Epsom. We will have to see about Tikaki after she has run in the Lingfield trial on Friday. Height of Fashion is coming along nicely. And if the Queen's filly has a preliminary race it will be in the Lupe Stakes at Goodwood".

The news about Peacetime is still the same. After Epithet had finished second to Swiftfoot Roger Charlton, Jeremy Tree's assistant trainer, said: "Peacetime is still giving the odd dry cough. If it clears up this weekend we might be able to give the colt enough work to get him ready for the Predominate Stakes at Goodwood. We shall just have to wait and see.

After Ecstatica's victory in the first race Johnson Houghton said that he was sending Rahjan over to Rome for the Italian Derby on Sunday. Rajan finished third to Old Country and Yard Bird in the Warren Stakes at the Epsom Spring meeting. And both Luca Cumani, who is also sending Capricorn Line for the Grand Prix D'Evry in Paris on Saturday, and Bruce Hobbs said that Old Country and Yard Bird were also certain runners in the same race. As Glint of Gold won their Derby after capturing the Warrens Stakes last year, the Italians must be shaking in their Gucci shoes at the prospect of this powerful English raid.

And finally, deep aplogies are due to Mrs Lurline Brotherton, the mother of Mrs Anne Henson, who is the owner of Able Albert, the winner of Tuesday's two-year-old race. I refered to Freebooter's owner as the late Mrs Brotherton. She is not only alive. She is also enjoying the best of health.

Flying Horage puts McCormack on map

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Matt McCormack, who was a stable lad for Sir Cecil Boyd-Rochfort, the late Bernard van Cutsem and Sir Charles Murless before eventually becoming head lad to Peter Walwyn at Lambourn, could be said to have crammed a fair amount of experience into his life before he decided to go it alone. But three and a half years ago, he felt that the moment was ripe to do just that.

It is not easy for anyone to become established as a trainer these days, least of all in the midst of a recession. But now, at the age of 42, McCormack has suddenly found himself in an excellent position to capitalize on all that experience and is very possibly on the threshold of major success — thanks primarily to a two-year-old colt called Horage.

McCormack currently has only 13 horses in his stable at Sparsholt, a yard which saw Eph and Doug Smith and Manny and Joe Mercer in their early days, when they were all apprenticed to the late Major Fred Sneyd. But if Horage goes on winning the way he did yesterday, MacCormack can surely look forward to a full house in the future. In racing, nothing fosters success better than success.

Sponsored by Rhys-Jenkins and Standing, the Salisbury Stakes was Horage's second easy victory within a week, and his fourth in four starts. Even before yesterday's race his trainer was saying he was certain that the colt was already crying out for further than five furlongs. Afterwards Robert Street, who rode him yesterday, agreed wholeheartedly.

"I'm sure you have not seen the best of him yet", Street remarked — and that about a colt who had just won by 10 lengths. No wonder McCormack now has his eye on the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot.

In the meantime, Horage is likely to be seen out again either at York next week, or at Haydock Park in early June. When McCormack paid only 8,000 guineas — which is chicken feed these days — for Horage at Doncaster last September, he was acting on behalf of a man who subsequently either would not or could not pay.

"I bet he's kicking himself now," McCormack remarked yesterday, with justifiable feeling. Horage now belongs to Arbed Rachid, a Lebanese living in London.

To make McCormack's day complete, Shiny Hour won the Levy Board Apprentice Handicap at 12-1. What is more, he confessed to having had a few quid on him at that good price. No wonder he was still celebrating much later because his first training double, which this was could turn out to be the dawn of his career.

However, McCormack's achievement was matched by Henry Candy, who also trained two winners, Ridge Heights in the Warminster Stakes and Glowing Halo who won the Druids Stakes. Both were ridden by Billy Newnes, another whose star is very much in the ascendancy.

At Salisbury today there will be eight races, as the Wincanton Maiden Stakes had to be split three ways yesterday for safety reasons.

With Henry Candy's stable in such good form, no one should be surprised if Reign wins the Redenham Maiden Fillies Stakes. A nippy filly by the sprinter Mansingh, Reign very nearly won first time out at Sandown.

More Kisses could be another winner for Candy in the second division of the Wincanton Maiden at 4.0. Silence Rules (1.30) and Kings Soldier (4.30) look possible answers to the problem posed by the other two divisions.

GOLF

England's women steal the show

By John Hennessy Golf Correspondent

The visiting team of American players have dominated the publicity attending the women's team both as to their looks and to their golf potential. But when the flags fell yesterday, in the first day of the Ford £20,000 tournament at Woburn, it was two young English women, born no farther away than Sunningdale who sprang into the lead.

They were Maxine Burton and Susan Bamford, with rounds of 73 (one under par) and 74 respectively. Miss Burton is the one born at Sunningdale, Miss Bamford having first opened her eyes and lungs at Barnet. Since so much store has been placed on appearance, it may as well be added that they are as fair of face and form as any, but they would probably wish to be appreciated more for their golf. So they shall.

Their nearest challengers are Susan Latham, in only her second season, and Muriel Thomson, a founder member of the Women's Professional Golf Association, both on 76. The best placed American is Lisa Baxter, on 77. The tournament is being played on the Duchess course, 5,831 yds.

Miss Burton has been troubled by an injured, or at least, ailing wrist for some time and could not, six weeks ago "pick up that piece of paper." She has therefore been unable to practise as assiduously as some, but then the practice ground has never held any great charm for her.

Miss Burton opened with a birdie four at the first, 405 yards and well within range of her four wood. But three wayward tee shots on the 6th, 7th and 9th extracted the penalties you would expect on a course so claustrophobically lined with towering pines.

It was a different story as she turned for home. The first six holes from the turn yielded four birdies, as she wielded a deft wedge, and although she dropped shots at two more holes sandwiched between them was a birdie three at the 17th, created by a lovely, wristy seven-iron to five feet.


Miss Bamford: a model of consistency

Miss Bamford has been through troubled times recently, to the point of considering giving up the game. Happily, her sponsors, Findus Foods, kept faith in her and invested £4,000 in sending her to Palm Springs for much of the winter to sit at the feet of a distinguished American teacher, Jim Hardy. He took her swing apart, rebuilt it with a power-inducing sway from the hips, and, at first glance at least, it seems he may have found the secret.

One over par at the turn, Miss Bamford was a model of consistency coming home and strayed from par only with a four at the long 14th. It was, oddly, one of the rare occasions when she invaded the woods, but a 20-yard putt more than redressed the balance.

LEADING SCORES: 73 M. Burton, 74 S Bamford, 76 S Latham, M Thomson, 77 L Baxter (US), 78 V Marvin, J Chapman, J Lee Smith, R Jones (US), 79 M Walker, V Saunders, 80 D Reid, B. Cooper, 81 C Langford, C Lyle, H Anderson, P Chugg, D Reid.

Fernandez farewell

From Mitchell Platts, Paris, May 5

The Argentine, Vicente Fernandez, has been a friend of the European tour for more than 10years. Tomorrow morning Brian Brnes and Sandy Lyle will set out with him in the first round of the £43,000 French Open, sponsored by Paco Rabanne, with an increased determination to make him feel at home.

The conflict over the Falkland Islands has once again provided sport with an unfortunate desturbance and Fernandez was close to tears today as he accepted that the situation is such that he will have to return home following this event instead of continuing on the circuit when it reaches British soil next week.

Barnes, however, showed a sincere sympathy towards Fernandez when he said: "Vincente is a super guy. I fully appreciate the terrible situation tha currently exists between our countries but I am certainly not going to blame him for that. I will tell him on the tee that we are both golf professionals seeking a living from the gome and that sport has nothing to do with politics".

In Madrid two weeks ago Fernandez applied for a visa to enter Britain but he has since been advized that it might be unwise to pursue that request. He has accepted that it will be best to return home.

"I must consider my wife and two children," he explained. "At the same time one cannot avoid the growing atmosphere since everyone on the tour is now beginning to realize what I have always known - that this is a serious affair. So far nobody has said or done anything to hurt me but I cannot sleep and I cannot concentrate on the golf course for worrying about what is happening between the two nations". Florentino Molina, who was joint forth in the Italian Open last week, is the other Argentine in the field. Lyle, who completes a threeball with Fernandez and Barnes is the defending champion and after missing clear opportunities to win the Tunisian and Madrid Opens at the start of the season will be keen to make amends in the Saint-Nom-la-Breteche course.

The opposition is strong. It includes Severiano Ballesteros, who win in Madrid, and Bernhard Langer. Bernard Gallacher and Mark James, the winner of the Italian Open, also take part.

Amateur shows way

By Lewine Mair

With such as David Huish and Jim Farmer still at work on the course late yesterday evening, the main talking point on the second day of the £10,000 Northern Open sponsored by Clydesdale Bank at Creden Bay concerned the performances of two amateurs, Stephen McAllister of Elderslie and Campbell Elliot, of Dumbarton.

McAllister, who was out in the worst of the morning rain, added a one over par 71 to his opening 74 to take a three shot lead over the largely professional field. Elliot, whose two-round aggregate is 149, has the distinction of being the first player to break 70 over these wet and windswept links.

A full-time amateur golfer who once represented the Scottish schools at badminton, McAllister recently had a double disappointment of finding that his one handicap was not good enough to get him into either the Craigmillar Park 36 hole open stroke play championship or the Edinburgh Trophy.

He yesterday steered clear of the tangled rough which has given such trouble to so many these past two days and was at his most impressive when crashing a three wood on to the green down the wind tunnel that is the 428 yard 17th. On Tuesday he had 31 putts, yesterday he used a frugal 27.

Elliot, 21 to McAllister's 20, sped to the turn in 34 against the card of 36 but was never more pleased with life than when he clinched his par at the seemingly never-ending 550 yards 13th.

In the sudden downpour, he lost hold of his driver and half topped his tee shot. He then used his driver off the fairway for his second and again for his third. A glorious little pitch saw him four feet from the flag and he duly holed the putt.

Some two years ago, when he tried his hand at full-time amateur golf, Elliot found the whole business impossibly expensive. Now he works as a greenkeeper at Dumbarton and, at the same time, finds all the hours he needs for practice and tournament play.

Of those who failed to find a place among the 60 qualifiers for today's final round, none will have pondered more on what might have been than J M Nicoll of Murcar. He opened birdie, birdie, birdie on Tuesday but went on to hand in a 92 followed by an 89.

LEADING SCORES: 145, S McAllister 74, 71, D Huish 73 74. 148, S Campbell 6,72. F Rennie 77, 71. T Minshall 76,72. 149, C Elliot 80, 69. D Gemmell 75, 74. L Johnson 79, 70; S Bino 77, 72; 150, B Lawson 77, 73; G Lennie 76, 76, A McLean 76,74.

TENNIS

What Katy did she tries to do yet again

Kate Brasher, aged 19, the British No 7, who is enjoying her best start to a new season, continued her winning ways in the Lawn Tennis Association's £30,000 Satellite tournament at the West Warwickshire club, Solihull, yesterday. The third seed from Petersham, Surrey, who has won four titles out of five tournaments so far, made easy progress into the quarter-final round when she defeated Anthea Stewart, of Kent, 6—4, 6—1

Her opponent in the last eight will be Elizabeth Sayers, of Australia, who last weekend won a £50,000 tournament in Sardinia. Miss Sayers, the fifht seed, defeated Sherry Hull, of United States, 6—0, 7—5.

MEN'S singles: second round:
D Mustard (NZ) beat F Saver (SA) 6-2,6-0. J Bates beat D Tarr (SA) 1-6,6-3,9-7; L Sanders beat J Windahl (Sweden) 1-6,6-4,6-4; J Smith beat C Stansbury (USA) 6-4,3-6,9-7; A Jarrett beat P Hjerlquist (Sweden) 6-1,6-2; C Freyss (France) beat H van Bonckel (Netherlands) 6-4,7-6; G Whitecross (Australia) beat R Chappell (SA) 6-0,6-3; S van der Merwe (SA) beat B Moir (SA) 7-5,7-6.
WOMEN'S SINGLES:Second Round:
K.Brasher beat A Stewart 6-4,6-1; E Sayers (Australia) beat S Hull (USA) 6-0,7-5; S Gomer beat K Seddon (SA) 6-0,6-3; A Croft beat A Brown 2-6,6-3,6-3.

Lendl stands firm over his decision

New York, May 5.—Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, defended his controversial decision to withdraw from this week's world team cup in Dusseldorf, to play in the tournament of champions here. He said the Czechoslovak Tennis Federation understood his decision and supported him. Lendl was talking after beating Damian Keretic, a West German, 6-1, 6-3 in the first round.

Meanwhile Jose Luis Clerc, of Argentina, was worried about war in the South Atlantic. Clerc seeded No 3, said: "It's tough for my nerves and I worry because my family is in Buenos Aires. If my country needs me I am ready to go." Clerc, who lives in Florida with his wife and child, said he would not compete at Wimbledon this year if Anglo-Argentine hostilities were still going on.

FIRST ROUND SCORES: E Edwards (SA) beat J Krick (SA), 6–3, 7–6; I Lendl (Cz) beat D Keretic (WG), 6–1, 6–3; J L Clerc (Argentina) beat B Drewett (Australia), 6–2, 7–6; V Gerulaitis (US) beat E Iskerski (US), 6–4, 4–6, 6–0; A Gomez (Ecuador) beat N Odizor (Nigeria), 6–2, 6–3; T Smid (Cz) beat G Goven (France), 6–1, 6–0, H Pfister (US) beat P Rebolledo (Chile), 6–4, 7–6
SECOND ROUND SCORES: S Glickstein (Israel) beat J Avendano (Spain), 6–3, 6–3; J Sadri (US) beat P DuPre (US), 4–6, 6–3, 6–3.

Chester

Tote Double: 3.15 and 4.15. Treble: 2.45, 3.45 and 4.45
[Television (BBC2): 2.15, 2.45, 3.15 and 3.45 races]

2.15 SCEPTRE STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies: £2,029: 5f) (8 runners)
101 0 BEST BIDDER (K Fischer) R Hollinshead 8-11 ... S Perks 7
102 3 GEM-MAY (C Sisson) T Fairhurst 8-11 ... R P Elliott 6
103 IN MOTION (Mrs P Doyle) P Doyle (Ire) 8-11 ... L Piggott 8
104 LADY MUSKOKA (R Bonnycastle) B Hills 8-11 ... S Cauthen 5
105 3 MIAMI DOLPHIN (C Shack) P Kelleway 8-11 ... P Cook 3
106 MY MUSIC (Mrs A Vincent) W Elsey 8-11 ... DOUBTFUL 2
108 0 SUZY MARIE (R Butters) R Hollinshead 8-11 ... Paul Eddery (5) 4
109 VAL'S DELIGHT (L Mills) R C Ward 8-11 ... P Young 1
2 In Motion, 5-2 Miami Dolphin, 7-2 Lady Muskoka, 6 Best Bidder, 7 Gem-May, 12 others.
FORM: Miami Dolphin (8-11) swerved start, headway two out, kept on, 3rd, beaten neck, 5l, to Songroid (level), with Best Bidder (level) 10th. 12 ran Newmarket, April 30, 5f, Good. Gem-May (8-11) chased leaders, not quicken from distance, 3rd, beaten 5l to Widow Bird (level). 13 ran Nottingham, April 27 5f Firm. In Motion (8-11) fav, 8th to Mothers Word (level). 11 ran Leopardstown, April 7 5f Soft. Previously (8-11) 3rd, beaten 3½l to Taqrag (gave 3lb) 11 ran Curragh, March 27 5f, Soft. Suzy Marie (8-11) backward, led to half-way, 5th, beaten 35l to Jendor (level). 5 ran. Haydock, April 7 5f Soft.
SELECTION: Miami Dolphin

2.45 ORMONDE STAKES (Group 3: £14,348: 1m 5f 88yd) (6 runners)
201 01110-3 CRITIQUE (G Vanian) H Cecil 4-9-0 ... L Piggott 1
202 4/1320- BAFFIN (R Hollingsworth) W Hern 4-8-10 ... W Carson 6
203 11130-0 BEDFORD (B) (J Moseley) I Balding 4-8-10 ... B Taylor 4
204 11102-0 DOGBERRY (Sir P Oppenheimer) H Wragg 4-8-10 ... P Cook 2
205 2444-10 NOELINO (E O'Ferrall) K Prendergast (Ire) 6-8-10 ... G Curran 5
206 24000-0 SIX MILE BOTTOM (E Moller) H Wragg 4-8-10 ... S Cauthen 3
5-4 Critique, 4 Noelino, 9-2 Baffin, 8 Six Mile Bottom, 12 Bedford, 16 Dogberry.
FORM: Critique (8-11) held up, ran on well final two furlongs, 3rd, beaten 1l, neck, to Glint Of Gold (gave 3lb) with Bedford (rec 3lb) 12l away seventh and Dogberry (rec 3lb) ninth. 11 ran. Newbury, April 17 1½m. Good. Noelino (10-0) eleventh to Golden Fleece (rec 24lb). 15 ran Curragh, April 17 1½m. Good to Soft. Baffin (8-13) fav, chased leaders, no progress from distance, 6th, beaten 4½l to Kings Glory (rec 16lb). 12 ran. Newmarket, October 31 1½m. Good. Six Mile Bottom (8-8) backward; never nearer, 5th beaten 11l to Princes Gate (gave 4lb). 9 ran. Sandown, April 24 1½m Firm.
SELECTION: Critique

3.15 LADBROKE HOTELS HANDICAP (3-y-o: £4,123: 7f) (12)
303 10313-4 FAIRY TERN (P Mellon) I Balding 9-7 ... S Payne (5) 7
304 021-3 PAPERETTO (D) (A Boon) B Hills 9-5 ... S Cauthen 5
305 02140-0 MUBHEDJ (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) Thomson Jones 8-12 ... P Cook 8
307 10-3 PLUM-BOLD (J Rowles) R Houghton 8-10 ... L Piggott 12
308 0021-4 ILLICIT (M Buckley) J Hindley 8-7 ... B Taylor 9
309 0-12 GODLY (P Abrehart) W Elsey 8-4 ... DOUBTFUL 1
312 0100- DANCE OF LIFE (A Hall) M Smyly 8-0 ... E Johnson 11
315 04410-0 NO CONTEST (Mrs J Fisher) M Ryan 7-13 ... P Robinson 4
316 000041- PUESDOWN (G Berger) W Guest 7-13 ... R Fox 3
318 0-03114 CROWN (D) (D Murray) C Booth 7-10 ... S Salmon 2
321 000340- MAJOR SINCLAIR (Sinclair Developments) M H Easterby 7-7 ... L Charnock 10
322 000340- HIT THE LINE (A Russell) R Simpson 7-7 ... B Crossley 6
9-4 Plum Bold, 4 Illicit, Paperetto, 7 Fairy Tern, Mubhedj, 10 No Contest, Crown, 12 others.
FORM: Fairy Tern (8-9), progress halfway, outpaced final qtr mile. 4th, btn 4l to Rose of Montreaux (level). 10 ran. Salisbury, April 3. 7f. Good to soft. Paperetto (9-0), no progress final qtr mile; 3rd, btn 18l, to Rare Gift (rec 6lb). 8 ran. Kempton, April 10 1m Good to soft. Plum Bold (8-5), hdwy 3 out, led until final fur, ran on . 3rd, btn 1½l, to Suggestive (rec 5lb). 10 ran Epsom, April 20. 1m 110y. Good to firm. Illicit (8-11) late hdwy, nvr nearer, 4th, btn 3½l, to Music Lover (gave 8lb) 10 ran. Newmarket, April 15. 8f Good to firm Crown (7-13), hdwy 3 out, inpeded and not recover. 4th, btn 7l, to Comtec Princess (rec 11lb) with No Contest (gave 11lb) not in first 9. 16 ran. Nottingham, April 12 1m 50y Soft
SELECTION: Fairy Tern.

3.45 DEE STAKES (Group 3: 3-y-o: £12,120: 1¼m 85yd) (11 runners)
401 120- ALVOR (Baroness Oppenheim) M Stoute 8-12 ... W R Swinburn 7
404 0121- BOXBERGER SPEED (W Nuy) M Ryan 8-12 ... T Cain 9
405 241132- BUSACO (R McCreery) W Hern 8-12 ... W Carson 8
406 124-00 CODRINGTON (R Bonnycastle B Hills 8-12 ... S Cauthen 10
409 1-1 IVANO (C d'Alessio) H Cecil 8-12 ... L Piggott 3
412 1211-00 MEEKA GOLD (C Rowe) S Norton 8-12 ... J Lowe 2
413 410-23 SABUTAI (P Hussein) I Balding 8-12 ... P Cook 11
414 1331-21 SPANISH POOL (Mrs M Haggas) J Hindley 8-12 ... B Taylor 5
417 02020-0 GOUVERNO (W Zeitelhack) F Durr 8-8 ... E Hide 6
418 00-40 MIRAMAR REEF (Mrs A Richards) C Brittain 8-8 ... M Birch 1
419 4002-00 TELEPHONE MAN (B) (M Fine) P Kelleway 8-8 ... — 4
2 Ivano, 9-2 Busaco, 7 Telephone Man, Spanish Pool, 8 Alvor, Codrington, 10 Gouverno, 14 Sabutai, 16 others.
FORM: Busaco (9-0), behind early, good late progress, ran on, 2nd, btn 1½l, to Montekin (level) with Sabutai (level) faded last qtr mile, 5th, btn further 12l. 8 ran. Newbury October 22 7f 60y. Soft Ivano (9-4) fav, led final qtr mile, ridden out, won nk, ¾l, ½l from Electric (rec 10lb), Crossways (rec 10lb) and Miramar Reef (rec 10lb), one paced fn fur 14 ran. Newmarket, April 15 1m 1f Good to firm. Spanish Pool (9-4), took up running 300y out, ran on under pressure won ½l, sh hd, from Cordite Spear (rec 10lb) and Hills Pageant (rec 17lb) 12 ran. Sandown, April 24 1m Firm.
SELECTION: Ivano.

4.15 OULTON HANDICAP (£3,080: 5f) (11 runners)
502 3/000-40 SUSARMA (D) (Mrs E O'Gorman) W O'Gorman 6-10-0 ... T Ives 10
506 0000-04 GO TOTAL (D) (R Smallbone) P Makin 6-8-9 ... S Cauthen 11
507 0024-00 ARCH MELODY (D) (Mrs M Farrell) M Connolly (Ire) 4-8-8 ... L Piggott 7
509 0000-40 BRI-EDEN (D) (G Robinson) J Berry 8-8-2 ... L Charnock 2
510 010-240 MISS IMPORT (D) (B) (Mrs I Raine) T Barron 4-7-13 ... M Birch 6
511 0040-20 HUMBLE BLUE (CD) (P Moredew) G Fletcher 4-7-7 ... R Fox 4
512 01000-2 LORD WIMPY (Tulsa Wimpy Bars) J Bethell 4-7-7 ... B Crossley 3
514 0000-02 THE HUYTON GIRLS (D) (B) (J Harrison) M James 4-7-7 ... J Lowe 8
515 42340/4 TREE FELLA (D) (C Crossley) C Crossley 5-7-7 ... A Mercer 1
516 0000-00 KINGS OFFERING (CD) (B) (Mrs G Cowap) R C Ward 7-7-7 A Mackay (5) 9
517 00310-0 SILENT TEARS (D) (B) (F Holbrook) M Cousins 5-7-7 ... N Carlisle (5) 5
7-2 Arch Melody, 4 Lord Wimpy, 5 Go Total, 6 Susarma, 7 The Huyton Girls, 8 Bri-Eden, 10 Miss Import, Humble Blue, 14 others

4.45 EATON HANDICAP (£3,059: 1½m 65yd) (10)
601 4/310-03 TURN BACK THE TIME (R Sangster) B Hills 4-10-0 ... S Cauthen 4
602 31113-4 PRINCE MAJ (S Zilkha) M Stoute 4-9-8 ... W R Swinburn 6
603 010-0 EVZON (Capt M Lemos) C Brittain 4-9-4 ... W Carson 10
604 01100-1 SAGE KING (R Proudfoot) J W Watts 4-8-4 ... E Hide 5
605 3100-03 LAKENHEATH (H Wragg) H Wragg 4-8-2 ... P Cook 2
607 300-140 SKI'S DOUBLE (G Moyers) R Hollinshead 6-8-9 ... Paul Eddery (5) 7
609 1140-40 ARKAN (Sultan Adham) J Hindley 4-8-7 ... B Taylor 8
610 2320-10 THE SMALL MIRACLE (G Jones) N Bycroft 4-8-5 ... B Crossley 3
612 320313- EARL'S COURT (H Moore) C Crossley 6-7-10 ... J Lowe 9
614 400340- LA PICCOLINA (H Thomson) N Vigors 6-7-7 ... S Dawson (5) 1
4 Sage King, 9-2 Prince Maj, 6 Arkan, 7 Ski's Double, 8 Turn Back The Time, Evzon, 10 Lakenheath, The Small Miracle, 16 others.

Chester selections

By Michael Seely
2.15 Lady Muskoka, 2.45 Critique, 3.15 Illicit, 3.45 IVANO is specially recommended, 4.15 Lord Wimpy, 4.45 Prince Maj.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Miami Dolphin, 2.45 Critique, 3.15 Mubhedj, 3.45 Ivano, 4.15 Susarma, 4.45 Lakenheath.

Salisbury

1.30 WINCANTON STAKES (Div 1: 3-y-o maidens: £1,277: 1¼m)
18 0-2 IMPLICATION (A Ward) G Harwood 9-0 ... G Starkey 10
26 00-0 MERCREDI (J Redfern) J Holt 9-0 ... P Waldron 9
29 00-0 NORTH BRITON (J Morrison) J Tree 9-0 ... P Eddery 13
33 30-0 PRINCE OF KASHMIR (G Brunton) P M Taylor 9-0 ... T Rogers 6
35 0040-0 SONG BOY (J Vaughan) R Keenor 9-0 ... — 1
37 00- SPLIT THE BREEZE (M Jackson) s Mellor 9-0 ... M Wigham 5
38 0-02 TAFFY JONES (P Hayes) McCormack ... R Street 3
39 000-0 TARSUS (R Chutor) B swift 9-0 ... A Murray 7
43 CEREZA (Dr M Hernandez) H Candy 8-11 ... W Newnes 4
51 0-00 MISS ACROW (W de Vigier) D Elsworth 8-11 ... R Cochrane 12
55 SANDY SIGHT (A Goode) J Dunlop 8-11 ... B Rouse
57 034-2 SILENCE RULES (P Mellon) I Balding 8-11 ... J Mathias
58 00-0 TOPOLINO SAURO (B) (J Gordon) Mrs R Lomax 8-11 ... J Reid 11
4-5 Implication, 7-2 Silence Rules, 6 Taffy Jones, 8 North Briton, 10 Acrow, 14 others.

2.00 DORSET HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,089: 1m) (8)
2 00233-0 SIR BLESSED (J Hunt) R J Williams 9-2 ... R Cochrane 7
3 00010-0 DEV (V Behrens) G Harwood 9-0 ... G Starkey 1
5 40010-0 TENDER VENTURE (C) (D Lark) G P-Gordon 8-12 ... G Duffield 3
7 410-222 EVEN BANKER (D) (L Ward) R Hannon 8-6 ... J Reid 8
8 0402-01 MYCENAEN (B) (S Niarchos) J Tree 8-6 (5 ex) ... P Eddery 2
10 010- SCOUTSMISTAKE (V Barclay) P Walwyn 8-4 ... J Mercer 6
12 00402-0 MISTER PITT (B) (Mrs R Horsoman) G Hunter 7-12 ... M L Thomas 5
13 00120-0 LITTLE SMASHER (G Deacon) M Haynes 7-9 ... I Jenkinson 4
9-4 Even Banker, 3 Mycenaen, 4 Tender Venture, 11-2 Sir Blessed, 7 Little Smasher, 12 Dev, 14 others

2.30 NEW FOREST HANDICAP (£2,968: 7f)
4 04/0-1 ROAN MIST (Miss I Carter) D Kent 4-9-3 ... B raymond 7
5 002300 PORTOGON (D) (T Marshall) T Marshall 4-9-2 ... D Mckay 5
8 0201-00 SHARP CELESTE (D) (P Crate) A Pitt 5-8-9 ... J Mercer 8
10 143000- DISCO (B) (Mrs M Hambro) L Kennard 4-8-4 ... R Weaver 1
14 0020-00 HIYA JUDGE (D) (A Bailey) A Bailey 4-7-13 ... S Whitworth 7 2
15 320100- YOUNG INCA (D) (J Boswell) L Cottrell 4-7-12 ... M L Thomas 4
16 00000-0 SLEEPLINE PRINCESS (Sleepline Holdings) S Mathews 4-7-10 ... S Salmon
17 0000-00 HANOVIA HAUT GIRL (Hautboy Restaurant) M Hayes 4-7-7 ... I Jenkinson 6
13-8 Sharp Celeste, 11-4 Portogon, 9-2 Young Inca, 6 Disco, 8-1 Hiya Judge, 10-1 others

3.0 REDENHAM STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,509: 5f) (11 runners)
1 0 AIR GIRL (S Digby) W Wightman 8-11 ... M L Thomas 5
2 ARMONIT (Amatsia Netser) Mrs B Waring 8-11 ... — 2
4 CHALET WALDEGG (A Clapperton) D Gandolfo 8-11 ... J Logie 6
8 EVERWARM (Col J Berry) I Balding 8-11 ... J Matthias 11
11 HAZEL HOLT (Miss J Wilkinson R Hannon 8-11 ... P Eddery 4
13 NOURIYYA (H H Aga Khan) R Houghton 8-11 ... J Reid 8
14 PEARLS DIAMOND (B Pearl) D Elsworth 8-11 ... W Newnes 3
15 2 REIGN (Mrs G Kent) H Candy 8-11 ... P Waldron 9
17 0 SILK SARI (W Jones Jun) G Harwood 8-11 ... G Starkey 1
20 TINKER'S IMAGE (Lady Dulverton) P Walwyn 8-11 ... J Mercer 10
21 ZUBEDAH (Sheikh Khamsan) J Winter 8-11 ... B Raymond 7
Evens Reign, 3 Silk Sari, 6 Hazel Holt, 8 Everwarm, 10 Tinker's Image, 12 others.

3.30 EDDIE REAVEY AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,169: 5f) (11)
1 FROGMORE SWEET (R Halling) R Thompson 8-10 ... — 6
2 4 FUNTLEY (S Whitear) B Palling 8-10 ... N Day 3 3
3 3 KING'S GRANGE (D Garfield) Mrs J Reavey 8-10 ... T Rogers 8
5 JUST QUEEN (Maj H Cayzer) W Wightman 8-7 ... R Curant 5
6 AMBER BAY (A Wade) R Hoad 8-4 ... J Mercer 11
7 RHODOKOMOS (Mrs A Smeath) V Soane 8-4 ... G Sexton 7
8 BALIDAMSEL (R Comery) P Cundell 8-1 ... G Baxter 4
10 FIGURE DE DANCE (A Osborne) R Sheather 8-1 ... R Cochrane 10
11 00 FRONTLET (Mrs J Dowes) M Bolton 8-1 ... G Duffield 2

4.30 WINCANTON STAKES (Div III: 3-y-o maidens: £1,267: 1¼m) (13)
...
32 00-0 PRINCE ELO (S Zilkha) J Dunlop 9-0 ... B Rouse 15
34 RIGHT REASON (C Hurt) Mrs R Lomax 9-0 ... M Rimmer 3 10
40 0-0 WELD MAIN (Wold Maintenance) M Jarvis 9-0 ... B Raymond 6
41 000- WORD OF MOUTH (T Cooper) P Kearney 9-0 ... — 3
44 CRIMSON LAKE (The Queen) I Balding 8-11 ... J Matthias 7
48 LINE ABREAST (R Barnett) H Candy 8-11 ... W Newnes 11
49 0000- LISTEN TO ME (Sheikh Khamsin) L Kennard 8-11 ... R Weaver 1
11-4 Kings Soldier, 7-2 Prince Elo, 9-2 Locked Tower, 6 Crimson Lake, 8 Line Abreast, 10 Norfolk Pageant, 12 Nikiforoc, Weld Main, 20 others.

5.00 CITY BOWL HANDICAP (£2,442: 1¾m) (13)
9 3000-30 CANIO (C Kilroy) R Hannon 5-9-10 ... A McGlone 5 3
10 01110/1- MIGRATOR (Sheikh Khamsin) L Kennard 8-9-4 ... R Weaver 8
13 0/00-4 KITSON (R Sangster) P Walwyn 4-8-12 ... J Mercer 1
14 1300-01 THAHUL (D) (B) (Sheikh Mohammed) R Houghton 5-8-12 ... J Reid 5
15 20333-0 SIMETTE (Mrs J Browne) C James 5-8-9 ... P Eddery 2
17 034-000 NIGHT WATCH (C) (P Mellon) I Balding 8-8-4 ... J Brown 7 13
18 00/040-0 ASHORE (H Candy) H Candy 4-8-4 ... J Kennedy 7 7
19 324000/ EMPEROR NAPOLEON (P Parker) N Mitchell 5-8-3 ... M Miller 9
20 001-320 TEA-POT (D) (Mrs M Rae Smith) M Blanshard 6-8-2 ... D McKay 10
22 300-000 DOWN TO DARKIE (B) (R Fairley) M Haynes 7-8-0 ... I Jenkinson 12
24 00u00-0 VELESO (B) (T Forde) J King 4-7-11 ... — 6
28 0 ENMAR (Mrs E Holmes) D Elsworth 4-7-7 ... W Newnes 11
30 023300/ BATTEN (B Badman) B Palling 6-7-7 ... A Clark 3 4
7-4 Kitson, 11-4 Thahul, 9-2 Tea-Pot, 8 Migrator, 10 Canio, 12 Simette, 16 others.

Salisbury selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.30 Silence Rules, 2.0 Mycenaen, 2.30 Portogon, 3.0 Reign, 3.30 Pat On The Back, 4.0 More Kisses, 4.30 King's Soldier, 5.0 Migrator.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.00 Tender Venture, 2.30 Hiya Judge, 3.0 Zubedah, 3.30 Pat On The Back, 4.0 Pearly Steps, 4.30 Weld Main.

Wigham's first winner

Robert Wigham, who starts a four-day suspension for careless riding tomorrow, rode his first Flat winner yesterday at Redcar, where his strong driving took Our Molly home with a length to spare over Bonny Shields in the Ugthorpe Stakes. The two-year-old filly had played up on her recent Thirsk debut.

Our Molly's trainer, Walker Wharton, who owns the filly jointly with Mr Charles Tateson, has now had four two-year-old winners so far this season. He later completed a double with Jennyjo in the Go Racing In Yorkshire Trainer's Trophy.

The Wetherby trainer Peter Asquith, who is on a working holiday in Florida, had his first winner of the season in the opening fevent, the Liverton Selling Handicap Stakes. His filly Holdall beat No Defect by 1½ lenths to give David Nicholls his third winning ride of the season. Paul Scott, Asquith's son-in-law, had to go to 2,300 guineas to retain the winner.

□ Jim McCaughey, the Midlands owner, has moved all his horses to Ireland. "My health is not good, and a change of scenery will do me good", he said. Rod Simpson's Epsom yard loses seven horses, and Michael Stoute and Gavin Pritchard-Gordon three each. Mr McCaughey's Triumph Hurdle winner, Connaught Ranger, has been retired.

□ Animal Health Trust, the Newmarket Charity, has arranged a match race between Willie Carson and the leading United States jockey, Cash Ashmussen, at Newbury on May 14.

The televised race will give British racegoers their first glimpse of the young Texan, who has alreay ridden over 800 winners. He has just replaced Phillipe Paquet as Francois Boutin's stable jockey at Chantilly.

□ Michael Albina's Silver Hawk, who finished fifth in the 2,000 Guineas, will bypass next week's important Derby trial, the Mecca Dante Stakes at York, and go straight to Epsom. Four definite runners for the trial are: Simply Great, Count Pahlen, Be My Native and Montekin.

□The Barnsley trainer Steve Norton runs Full Extent (John Lowe) in the Irish 2,000 Guineas at The Curragh on Saturday week.

STATE OF GOING: Chester Good. Huntingdon Firm Salisbury Good to firm. Tomorrow Sedgefield: Hard Stratford Good to firm Newton Abbot: Good to firm Lingfield. Good to firm

BLINKERED FIRST TIME Salisbury. 1.30 North Briton, Topolino Sauro, 4.0 Colebrook Folly

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS. Derby Stakes, Epsom. Snow Forecast, Lusardo.

Huntingdon NH

2 30 CROWLAND HURDLE (Div 1 novices: £345 2m200yd) (8 runners)
3 UP BHARATAPUR 6-11-4 A webber
5 0 DADDY S PET 6-11-4 —
6 0-PO DAN DARE 7-11-4 Linley
7 020 FUNKY ANGEL 5-11-4 Francome
9 234 GREY GATE 5-11-4 R Rowe
11 230 MIDNIGHT LILY 5-11-4 C Jones
15 OPO SWEET COE 5-11-4 McCourt
19 CEREMONIOUS 4-10-10 K Townsend 7
4-9 Grey Gate, 5 Midnight Lily, 8 Funky Angel, 12 Ceremonious

4 00 HOLBEACH HURDLE (Handicap. £690 2m 200yd) (9)
9 400 SHOW BUSINESS 5-11-7 A Webber 7
11 031 GREAT OAK 8-11-6 M Lynn 7
12 231 KING S PICCOLO 5-11-5 J Francome
14 020 CITY LINK EXPRESS 5-11-3 M Coyle 4
15 000 HELTON TARN 6-11-1 McCourt
17 000 OPARAU 7-10-13 —
19 000 OVERULE 5-10-11 T Austin 4
20 01-0 PHILNORM 5-10-9 —
23 000 SUFFIELD PARK 4-10-2 S McNeil
5-2 Great Oak, 11-4 King s Piccolo, 3 City Link Express, 8 Show Business.

Chester results

Redcar

Cheltenham and Wetherby results, Page 23

BOXING

Magri the falling angel, trailing cotton-wool clouds

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

A question mark as big as a Mexican hat hangs over the career of Charlie Magri, Britain's European flyweight champion. His defeat in the ninth round of his bout with Jose Torres, of Tucson, leaves me in no doubt about Magri's inability to take a punch and with some concern for his well-being should he find himself in the ring with some other Mexican with a whiplash punch.

Admittedly any blow well placed on the point of the chin will flatten most men but the blow that put Magri's future in danger was not a classic knockout blow. It landed full on the right side of the head and rather high. Down he went.

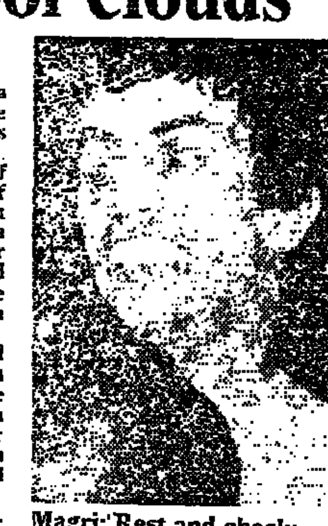
Nor is Torres a hard puncher. Which must have been more than a little disturbing for friends and followers and British Boxing Board of Control officials alike.

Particularly alarming was how much Magri's boxing has fallen off. He seems perpetually to be fighting his way through a huge cloud of cotton-wool. At this level he does not seem to be able to control a bout and more often than not finds himself being bulled against the ropes.

As after every contest the board will be looking at Magri's performance together with those of others who took part in Tuesday's show at Wembley Arena. Since the boxer's welfare comes first with the board, I am sure they will think hard about Magri's future.

Magri and his manager, Terry Lawless, are also pondering the matter. In the meantime Magri must automatically have an enforced 21 days' rest from boxing. After that, as is customary, he will be given a complete neurological check-up.

I hope that after that period he will not feel inclined to defend his European title against Enrique Cal, of Spain, whom he stopped in one round in 1981. He may have to go abroad for that, as not many people would pay to see another one-round contest in London. Boxing in Spain will do his confidence no good. Besides, if he wins he may feel like climbing back up the world rankings. From fourth he will either fall to the bottom of the top 10 or fade out of the picture. That will do him no good, either.



Magri: Rest and checkup

Tony Sibson is to take three months' rest after his successful European middleweight title defence against Jacques Chinon, of France. Sibson has a suspected broken metacarpel in his right hand and his arm is in plaster. He was not impressive but in view of his damaged hand he could be excused.

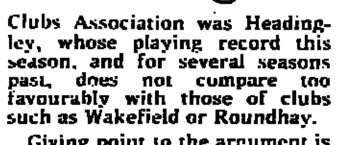
He is likely to be back in action in September against the tough Syrian, Mustapha Hamsho. Sam Burns, Sibson's manager, said: "When Mickey Duff suggested a fight with Hamsho I took it with both hands. Sibson cannot get to Hagler until the end of the year and if he cannot beat Hamsho he should not be fighting Hagler, anyway".

□ Rudi Koopmans's defence of the European light-heavyweight title against Christiano Cavina has been postponed for a second time. The Dutchman will meet the Italian in Montecatini Terme, near Florence, on June 2.

Hearns injury delays challenge

The world middleweight title fight between the champion, Marvin Hagler, and Thomas Hearns will be postponed from May 24 because of an injury to Hearns' finger. Emanuel Steward, Hearns' manager and trainer, said he believes July 15 is the date for which the bout could be rescheduled.

Hearns, a volunteer auxiliary police officer, injured the finger about 10 days ago when he fell after training at the Detroit police department gymnasium. The former World Boxing Association welterweight champion continued his sparring workouts, but the finger apparently became infected, Steward said. Hearns was due to meet Hagler in Windsor, Ontario. — AP.



RUGBY UNION

Wakefield, the cocks of the north, are crowing

By David Hands

The decision of the Rugby Union to shelve plans for a projected national league system for at least five years may give a somewhat enhanced emphasis to the final regional merit tables. Voting by member clubs to an RU questionnaire on the subject showed a slim majority — 355 against 345 — against leagues although it is possible that some senior clubs may give more time to chewing on this particular bone of contention.

Meanwhile Wakefield have cause to crow over their jump from twelfth place in the Northern merit table to the head. Last year Gosforth led the north with a 100 per cent record; this year they give best to Wakefield, who made it something of a local double by beating Shefield in the final of the Yorkshire Cup.

Wakefield's success — their only blemish was against Fylde — is the culmination of a reorganization of their playing strength over the last five years and it is a comforting thought that only three of their leading team are over 28. Robin Foster, their secretary, attributes their fine season to an outlook which is almost South Walian. "All the children in whatever school round here play with an oval-shaped ball, whether they are directed towards Rugby Union or Rugby League", he said yesterday.

Some of those maturing youngsters helped Yorkshire to a surprise win over Lancashire — ultimately the county champions — this season and one of them, the wing Harrison, received a final England trial. Harrison and the other wing, testiomony to the fluid style of play cultivated by Wakefield and their panel of coaches, headed by a deputy headmaster at the Silcoates School, Mike Elford, who is to coach the senior Yorkshire side next season in succession to Alan Old.

Not that all is sweetness and light in Yorkshire circles. The Northern major clubs are still waiting for the RU's reply to a letter expressing some concern that the only Yorkshire club to be selected for the nfew Senior Clubs Association was Headingley, whose playing record this season, and for several seasons past, does not compare too favourably with those of clubs such as Wakefield or Roundhay.

Giving point to the argument is the position Headingley occupy in the Northern merit table proper, to which they were pjromoted only this season. Lying second from bottom, they now return to the qualifying table.

Farther south, London Irish jumped from seventh to first in the London merit table but in the Midlands and the South-West the same teams, Leicester and Bristol, have yet to be dislodged.

Final tables

LONDON DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
London Irish	7	7	0	0	115	55	100
London Welsh	8	6	0	2	118	88	75.00
London Scottish	6	4	0	2	114	46	66.76
Wasps	8	5	0	3	134	84	62.50
Rosslyn Park	9	5	0	4	109	89	55.56
Blackheath	9	5	0	4	89	112	55.56
Harlequins	6	3	0	3	75	87	50.00
Richmond	8	2	0	6	108	123	25.00
Saracens	8	1	0	7	72	167	12.50
Met Police	7	0	0	7	29	110	—

SOUTH/SOUTH-WEST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Bristol	8	7	0	1	190	45	87.50
Gloucester	5	4	0	1	82	43	80.00
Plymouth	6	3	0	3	44	75	50.00
Camborne	6	3	0	3	43	92	50.00
Bath	7	3	0	4	90	95	42.86
Exeter	8	0	0	8	41	140	—

NORTHERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Wakefield	8	7	0	1	172	102	87.50
Gosforth	6	5	0	1	119	50	83.33
Liverpool	11	7	1	3	142	109	68.18
Orrell	10	6	0	4	114	90	60.00
Broughton Park	10	5	1	4	165	120	55.00
Harrogate	12	6	0	6	118	130	50.00
Waterloo	6	3	0	3	68	73	50.00
Sale	10	4	1	5	142	132	45.00
Roundhay	9	3	2	4	80	88	44.44
Sheffield	9	4	0	5	100	131	44.44
Vale of Lune	10	3	2	5	124	137	40.00
Fylde	11	4	0	7	114	131	36.36
Northern	11	3	2	6	103	168	36.36
Headingley	9	3	0	6	95	101	33.33
Morley	8	2	1	5	78	107	31.25

North qualifying table

	P	W	D	L	%
Hartlepool	11	7	1	3	68.18
Otley	9	5	0	4	[illegible]
Birkenhead Park	10	4	0	6	40.00
Widnes	10	3	0	7	30.00
[illegible]	7	1	1	5	21.43
Halifax	13	2	0	11	15.38
Bradford	7	1	0	6	14.28
Middlesbrough	7	1	0	6	14.28
Hull and ER	11	1	0	10	9.09
New Brighton	14	1	0	13	7.14
Huddersfield	11	0	0	11	—
Manchester	10	0	0	10	—

SPORT IN BRIEF

Sports minister says under-used facilities abound

Emphasising that the government would not be encouraging further large scale development of recreation centres, the Minister for Sport, Neil Macfarlane, yesterday opened an international sports conference at Wembley with the statement that the country was "rich in under-used facilities," Norman Fox writes.

Speaking largely to representatives of recreation and leisure services, some of whom questioned whether it was necessary to expect their centres to be profitable, Mr Macfarlane said there was a "myriad" of potential facilities available at no great cost.

He cited education establishments, which generally closed at 4 pm, and privately owned sports grounds. Asked to relate that to his government's alleged policy of reducing under-used school playing fields, he denied that they were actively encouraging the selling of the facilities.

The conference, at the Wembley Conference Centre, is being held in conjunction with a trade exhibition opened yesterday by the Olympic champion, Sebastian Coe. He said that at a difficult period economically, and with more leisure time available all over the world, it was important for people abroad to utilise British "technical know-how".

SWIMMING

Another kind of marathon for New Zealander

Sandra Blewett, a marathon swimmer from Auckland, New Zealand, who has twice been advised after serious illness or injury that she would not be able to swim seriously again, plans an assault on various European venues during the summer, David Hands writes.

Miss Blewett, aged 32, who has been living in this country for the past three years, hopes to make her third attempt on the Channel as well as the little-attempted 60-mile Lake Geneva swim and the crossing of the Straits of Gibraltar, if she can find a sponsor.

Eight years ago, on her first Channel swim, she slipped discs in her back so badly that her medical advisers suggested she should give up swimming. But she has come back from that, and from a serious liver complaint, to continue her love affair with marathon events, even though the trend these days is to undertake running at this classic distance.

Miss Blewett, who is a swimming coach but currently lives in Folkestone and works as a cashier on board cross-Channel ferries, hopes to undertake distances which have not in the past proved popular. At least her present job allows her to get across the Channel, even if it is on the water rather than in

HORIZONS

The Times guide to careers training

Working towards better hours

Roy Hill presents the case for introducing a flexible working year

Between one and two million people in Britain, and untold numbers worldwide, work for employers who allow them, within limits, to choose their hours. Most flexible working hour schemes allow for hours not worked, or over worked, to be credited to, or debited from, the next day, or week, or month — again within accepted ground rules so that the privilege (for it is still seen as a privilege, rather than a right) is not abused.

Now the idea of flexible working years is gaining ground. It is after all, a logical extension of the principle enshrined in flexible working hours that employees should be able to contract with their employers, at the start of each year, the total work package for the next 12 months that suits them best.

As Dr Bernhard Teriet, Professor of Labour Economics at the University of Augsburg and a leading proponent of work flexibility, points out, a work pattern of eight hours a day, 40 hours a week, 45 weeks a year for around 45 years, which is the norm in Germany if not in Britain, is neither natural nor immutable.

Such a pattern is sanctified only by traditional ways of thinking and work organization, not by any law of nature or economics. Moreover, already it is fraying around the edges as part-time working, job sharing, earlier retirement, sabbaticals and compulsory leave — three months off decreed by law, in Australia, after 10 years work with the same employer — begin to disturb the old pattern.

So why not allow employees to decide for themselves in what years of their lives they wish to work hardest and, within each year, how they prefer to relate work to leisure time?

The Munich department store Beck-Feldmeir KG is one of about a dozen West German firms experimenting with flexible working years. It has introduced what it calls individual working time, which allows employees to choose at six-monthly intervals the number of hours they want to work in the following 12 months.

Each employee is free in theory to work three months on and three months off, to work only Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or, indeed, to work any arrangement of hours that can be fitted in.

In practice it is not quite as liberal as that, since there has to be sufficient regard to the employer's needs. What happens is that small groups of employees, rather than individuals, decide among themselves when and how long to work, and their supervisor arbitrates between their interests and those of the company.

It is still not possible to find that degree of flexibility in any British department store. However, more and more groups of workers in Britain draw up their own shift rosters with the blessing of managements who feel that if a job gets done, whether it is done in four or five shifts per person per week, is largely immaterial. With increased autonomy there may even be a bonus of increased productivity, as Beck-Feldmeir has found.

What, then, stands in the way of the widespread application of the flexible working year, leading eventually to the flexible working lifetime, in Britain?

According to Clive Jenkins of ASTMS, paid overtime was, and still is, the snag. Many workers manage to live only by doing overtime, he says. "Only countries reducing overtime by law are seeing a real reduction in hours worked," he insists. "So far as the flexible working year is concerned, we put up a motion to last year's TUC arguing that we need a fresh look at 48-48-48: 48 hours a week, 48 weeks a year, 48 years a lifetime. We argued for sabbaticals by law and fresh legislation to reduce trips to work".

Similarly, Roy Grantham's union, Apex, aims to win a 35-hour week for its members and be flexible about the way it is applied. The 100-strong union staff already works a nine-day fortnight. But an Apex official had not heard of the flexible working year experiments in Germany. "Very interesting," he said.

No research into flexible working years is going on at ASTMS. "If a group of members asked us to do some research, it would be done," says a member of the research department. "But we haven't been asked".

Lack of action in Britain, therefore, on extending flexibility to the working year, can be ascribed to a mixture of ignorance, inertia and employees' preoccupation with more bread-and-butter problems, such as overtime.

However, some inexorable trends are at work. One is the increasing reluctance of young, well educated workers to accept that they cannot control, or at least strongly influence, the shape of their own working lives. The second is the technological revolution, particularly in electronics, which has made an ossified attitude towards work as outdated as the dodo.

A third is the fact that, as employers realize the productivity benefits to be gained from greater flexibility, they will themselves — or at least the more enlightened ones — take the initiative.

The author is senior editor of International Management *magazine, published by McGraw-Hill, and joint author of* The Re-Making of Work.

More chances of work

□ A survey just published says that Britain's professionals are past the worst of the recession. Carried out by accountancy, banking and other specialist recruitment divisions within the Career Care group of employment agencies, the survey reports that more vacancies have been notified to the agency during the first quarter of this year than in 1981.

"Redundancies and liquidations continue but the increase in the number of vacancies means more choice and less competition for Britain's accountants except for the very young seeking their first position as trainees," say Career Care.

The survey says that students entering training contracts to become chartered accountants are now 20 per cent better off than they would have been in 1963 and students finishing training contracts nearly 60 per cent better off. However, although young, recently qualified accountants in public practice are still in demand, their immediate prospects have deteriorated.

Career Care also report more vacancies in merchant banking in London, but highlight the decentralization of other banking institutes. This may well affect salary and employed levels in central London, where most merchant banking staff are based and wish to continue to work.

□ A conference on marketing for the accountancy profession will be held at the CFS Conference Centre, London W1, on May 19.

Organized by Oyez IBC, it will advocate the need for better marketing in the accountancy profession. Factors taken into account will include computer technology and its challenge to the need for accounts to be prepared by accountants; recent EEC legislation dispensing with the necessity for audited accounts from the small and medium sized company; and the growing number of practice mergers which has led to a demand for specialized or ancillary services.

Contributors include Aubrey Wilson of Industrial Market Research, Lynda King Taylor, senior associate at the Department of Employment Work Research Unit, and Ian Percy, managing partner of Thornton Baker.

Details from Oyez IBC, Norwich House, Norwich Street, London EC4A 1AB (Tel: 01-242 2481).

Michel Syrett

PERSONAL COLUMNS

DEATHS

JANNER.—On Tuesday, May 4th, one month before his 90th birthday, after a long illness. Borne with courage and patience. Barnett, Lord Janner of the city of Leicester. Greatly mourned by his devoted wife Elsie, children, Greville and Ruth, daughter-in-law Myra, son-in-law Philip, seven grandchildren, sister Sarah, and very many relatives and friends. Funeral, Willesden Jewish Cemetery, Pound Lane, NW6, Thursday, May 6, 2pm. Prayers 8pm, 2 Linnell Drive, Hampstead Way, NW11. No letters or messages please.

KENDRICK. — On April 29th, 1982, peacefully at home, Iris Margaret Holland (nee Rogers) beloved wife of the late Tony Kendrick. Funeral service at Hellingly Parish Church near Hailsham, East Sussex, on Thursday, 13th May at 2.45pm, followed by service at Eastbourne Crematorium at 3.30pm. Sprays of garden and wild flowers only may be sent to Haine & Sons, 19 South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

KERR.—On 5th May, 1982, Thomas Barclay Odell, C.B.E., Aged 76, of The Old Slate House, Newick, Sussex. Dearly loved husband of Peggy, father of Sally and grandfather of Angela, Tom and Carolyn. Director of G.E.C. 1962-1976 and former deputy chairman. Funeral private. No letters by request. Donations may be sent to the Injured Jockeys' Fund, P.O. Box 9, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8JG or The British Field Sports Society.

LATIMER. — Reginald, FCA. Suddenly at Hexham on 1st May. Loving husband, father and grandfather. Private cremation followed by service of thanksgiving at Hexham Abbey on Sat 8th May at 11 am. Enquiries: Dodds of Hexham. Tel. (0434) 603362.

LAWE. — Francis Walsham Lawe, C.B.E., formerly of 5 Portland ...

RUTHVEN of Freeland. Bridget Helen, 11th Lady Ruthven of Freeland, C.B.E., Dowager Viscountess Monckton of Brenchley. A memorial service will be held at St Peters, Eaton Sq., London SW1, 12 noon on Friday 21st May.

IN MEMORIAM

LANDAU. Frederick Anthony. 13th Dec 1949—6th May 1974. Remembered today and every day with love and gratitude.

MORRISON, MINNIE.—Treasured memories of a beloved wife and mother. 6 May, 1971.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40 Open University Social Psychology; **7.05** Human Factors in Aviation; **7.30** Aluminium in Lynemouth; **9.27 For Schools, Colleges:** Geography (Routeway); **9.48** Industrial Archaeology; **10.10** Science Workshop (seeds and plants); **10.32** A Question of Class; **11.30** Search (iron); **11.50** Closedown; **12.30 News After Noon:** with Richard Whitmore, Moira Stewart; **12.57** Financial report. News headlines; **1.00 Pebble Mill at One:** From Amsterdam, Bob Langley and Marjorie Lofthouse discover the delights of this city of canals, and report on the claiming of land from the sea; **1.45** Chock-a-Block; **2.00** You and Me; **2.15 For Schools, Colleges:** Music Time (In the Town); **2.40** Television Club: Muscles and Machines; **3.00** Closedown; **3.53** Regional News; **3.55** Play School: Shirley Gee's story Archie and Auntie (also on BBC2 at 11.00am).

4.20 The Drak Pack cartoon series based on characters from the old horror film classics;
4.40 The Littlest Hobo: Series about a German shepherd dog.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreel; **5.10 Blue Peter:** Last-minute preparations by Peter Duncan who will be competing in the London marathon next Sunday. There is also film of his fine efforts in the marathon last year.
5.40 News: with Richard Baker; **6.00 South East at Six; 6.25 Nationwide.**
7.00 Tomorrow's World: A golf course in your living room.
7.25 Top of the Pops: with Simon Bates.
8.00 It Ain't Half Hot Mum: The jungle concert party are dragooned into taking part in a field test for a new anti-malaria drug (r).
8.30 Sorry: Mother's pet (Ronnie Corbett) is supplanted by his handsome cousin (David Troughton).
9.00 News: with John Simpson.
9.25 Bird of Prey: Episode 3 of Ron Hutchinson's computer-age thriller. Henry (Richard Griffiths) joins forces with an investigative journalist (Ann Pennington).

10.15 Question Time: Tonight's panel consists of Betty Boothroyd MP; Winston Churchill MP; Lord Mayhew (Liberals' defence spokesman) and Mgr. Bruce Kent (general secretary of the CND).
11.20 Fame: John Pitman interviews Trevor Lock, the policeman-hero of the Iranian Embassy siege. How the drama affected his life and wife (r).
11.50 So You Want To Stop Smoking: How to live longer and retain more of your pay packet (r); **12.00 Weather.**

Richard Griffiths, Mandy Rice-Davies in Bird of Prey (BBC 1, 9.25pm)

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: The Chemistry of Detectives; **7.05** A Woman's Place?; **7.30** Microfossils; Closedown at 7.55; **11.00 Play School:** Shirley Gee's story Archie and Auntie (also to be seen on BBC 1 at 3.55 this afternoon); **11.25** Closedown; **1.00 International Snooker/Chester Racing.** The Embassy World Championships, in Sheffield, feature second-rouund matches. Likely visitors to the table: Eddie Charlton, Cliff Thorburn, Perrie Mans. More at 6.55 8.05 and 11.10; Chester Racing at 2.00 including the 2.15,2.45 (Ormonde Stakes), 3.15 and the 3.45 (the Dee Stakes. This is the 169th year that this race has been run). Snooker then takes over again until 5.10 pm.

5.10 Berlin Siedlungen: The capital's pre-war housing estates(r).
5.40 Buck Rogers: Episode 8 of the old serial*
6.00 The Great Egg Race: Shooting gallery contest between Yarsley Technical Centre, British Telecom and Datac.
6.30 Sorry Mate, I Didn't See You: Cornering hints for motor-cyclists.
6.55 International Snooker (see 1.00 entry).
7.05 County Hall: the local government serial; **7.30** News summary, with sub titles for the hard of hearing.
7.35 Travellers in Time: Captain Noel's remarkable film of the 1922 attempt on Everest. First of seven films of early exploration.
8.05 International Snooker (see 1.00 entry).

9.00 Call My Bluff: Tonight's players are Frank Muir, Kate O'Mara, Godfrey Smith, Arthur Marshall Victoria Wood and Tim Brooke-Taylor.
9.30 Heart Transplant: Final film in this all-embracing documentary series about the operations at Harefield Hospital (see Choice)
10.10 The Old Grey Whistle Test: with Spandau Ballet and Gang of Four. There is also some 1973 film of Kevin Ayers.
10.45 Newsnight:
11.10 International Snooker: The Embassy championships (contd).
11.45 Newsnight: Local Election Special. Reports from round the country, and comment from Jo Grimond, Neil Kinnock, David Owen and James Prior. Introduced by David Dimbleby. Ends at 1.30 approximately.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools Spring in the woods; **9.25** Day on a farm; **10.09** Trees; **10.28** Physical growth; **10.48** A level Physics; **11.05** Basic Maths (combining and rules); **11.22** Circles; **11.39** Middle English (punctuation); **12.00 Gammon and Spinach:** The mice Who Lived in a Shoe; **12.10 Get up and Go!** Beryl Reid and Mooncat. Making a cake; **12.30 The Sullivans:** Australian family seriasl; **1.00 News from ITN; 1.20** Thames area news; **1.30 Crown Court:** The verdict in the case of an alleged indecent assault on a beauty contest winner (Cherry Gillespie); **2.00 After Noon Plus:** Young women writers at the Royal Court theatre; and the Indian dancer Alpana Sen Gupta; **2.45 Cribb:** The Horizontal Witness. Victorian detective series, with Alan Dobie. The murder of a vice king (r); **3.45 The Cuckoo Waltz:** Comedy series with Diane Keen and David Roper the husband and wife (r)

4.15 Watch It: Sylvester the Cat cartoon; **4.20 Little House on the Prairie:** part one of Days of Sunshine, Days of Shadow. Sad news for the mother-to-be. (Melissa Gilbert).
5.45 News from ITN: 6.00, Thames area news.
6.30 Thames Sport: The national and international scene, covered by Derek Thompson, Allan Taylor and Simon Reed.
7.00 Never the Twain: Comedy series with Donald Sinden and Windsor Davies as a couple of highly competitive antique dealers. Tonight, they are briefly united (r)
7.30 Spooner's Patch: Police comedy series. A film-acting opportunity for the inspector (Donald Churchill).
8.00 Falcon Crest: Drama series set in the California winelands. Why is Chase Gioberti's Mother coming over from France after 30 years? Co-starring Jane Wyman, Robert Foxworth and old-timer Lana Turner (as the visiting mother).

9.00 TV Eye: The whole of tonight's edition of Thames Television's weekly current affairs programme is given over to the Falklands crisis. It is likely to include studio interviews, and a report from Argentina. Janet and Company is postponed.
10.00 News from ITN: Including a special report on the Falklands crisis.
10.45 Looks Familiar: Show business personalities answer questions about stage and screen in the 1930s and 1940s. The panel tonight consists of Beryl Reid, Jack Douglas and Bill Maynard. The MC is Denis Norden.
11.15 Thames News Election Special: Up-to-the-minute local and national news from the key seats in the municipal elections. The anchor man is Andrew Gardner. Leading politicians will be in the studio to comment on the likely outcome as the early results are declared.
1.15 Close: Humphrey Lyttelton reads from one of his favourite works.

CHOICE

● **TRAVELLERS IN TIME** is back again (BBC 2, 7.35pm); an occasion for celebration, surely. These films about exploration, marvellously preserved and unheroically narrated (though the exploits they recount are themselves often heroic), are marred only by some spurious sound effects. Tonight's story is Captain Noel's filmed account of the unsuccessful 1922 attempt to conquer Everest. It has classic moments that are the equal of any in the history of mountaineering film-making. Will there, for instance, ever be anything to rival the famous pictures of the "smoking summit"? Next week, a 1921 film of the taboo goblins of Papua.

● **HEART TRANSPLANT,** Louise Panton's unprecedently comprehensive series about a specific area of medical innovation, ends tonight (BBC 2, 9.30pm). I say comprehensive because there is not a single aspect of heart transplants — surgical or domestic, economic or moral — that has not been either touched upon or explored at length in one or other of the seven films. And this same exhaustive approach is at work in the concluding film. Bruce Anderson has acquired not only a new heart but, because of his altered life, a new and heavy financial burden. Peter Lobo, the other transplant patient, will always have the twin worries of possible infection and rejection to worry about. And — typical of Miss Panton's dotting of every i and crossing of every t — we are reminded of a periphical drama: that of the bereaved parents of the teenaged girl whose heart now beats inside the body of Mr Lobo.

● **UNTIL THE REAL THING COMES ALONG** (Radio 4, 3.02pm), a sad comedy about the corrosive effects of success, is from the pen of Neville Smith. I must remind you that he is the man who wrote the Albert Finney film Gumshoe which, in 1971, raised hopes of a revival in the British film industry. Chariots of Fire is doing the same thing in 1982 with, one hopes, a better chance of success. Mr Smith knows his Merseyside and has an ear that is finely tuned to the Liverpuddlians' tricks of speech. But, no less important, he sets the comedy elements in his play against a realistic and wholly convincing background of economic and racial boorishness. Excellent performances all round, especially from William Nighy as the golden boy of the underwear factory, Lynda Marchal as his mother and Susan Littler as the encumbrance he sheds on the road to Better Things.



Cherry Gillespie: she appears in Crown Court (ITV,1.30pm)

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.45* Prayer for the Day. 7.0, 8.0 Today's News. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45* Thought for the Day.
8.33 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.57 Weather and Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint. Roger Cooke investigates listener's experiences of suspect dealing and injustice.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 As It Happens. A nationwide what's-on magazine.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Our Fathers" by Tony Shelton.
11.00 News and Travel.
11.03 A Tale of Two Survivors.
11.48 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Brain of Britain 1982.†
12.55 Weather and Travel with Programme News.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play "Until the Real Thing Comes Along" by Neville Smith.†
4.00 News.
4.02 Round Pegging. David Davies talks about his work as a naturalist and teacher.
4.10 Bookshelf. Magazine programme about books.
4.40 Story Time: "Catalina" by W Somerset Maugham (4).
5.55 Weather and Programme News.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Any Answers?.
6.54 It's a Bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Concert Prelude.†
7.30 Maurizio Pollini (Conductor and soloist in an all-Mozart journey over the Grand.†
8.25 No Wheel Ever Crossed the Alps. A reflective journey over the Grand St Bernard Pass.
8.45 Maurizio Pollini (part 2) Mozart.†
9.40 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 A Book At Bedtime: (Chaplapin' (9).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Local Election Special.

ENGLAND VHF with above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather and Travel. 9.5 For Schools: 9.5 Noticeboard, 9.10 A service for Schools, 9.35 Teenage Playhouse, 9.55 Poetry Corner, 10.5 Sounds, Words and Movement, 10.20 Stories and Rhymes, 10.30 Listen with Mother, 11.00-12.00 For Schools: 9.5 Time and Tune, 11.20 Man, 11.40 Advanced Studies: Geography, 1.55pm Programme News, 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 Living Language, 2.20 Lifetime, 2.40 Days That Made History, 5.50-5.55 PM (continued) 11.30-12.10 Open university: 11.30 Dartmoor: Preservation, 11.50 Algae and Water Quality.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert Handel, Scarlatti, arr. Munrow: records †
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Hahn, Saint-Saens, Chopin (mono); records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer Roussel; records †
10.00 Endellion String Quartet Recital: Mozart, Beethoven †
10.50 Bartok's Transcriptions Piano-reicital: Frescobaldi, Domenico Zipoli, Azzolino Bernardino della Ciaia, Bach †
11.20 Scottish National Orchestra Concert: Sibelius, Ravel, Granados, Bruckner. The Bruckner work is the Symphony No 3 (Third version).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Bristol Lunchtime Concert direct from St George's, Brandon Hill Song recital: Schubet, Enesco, Haydn †
2.00 Early Works of Britten Chamber music recital. It is given by the Gabrieli String Quartet, with Kenneth Essex (vida).†
3.00 Gurrelieder by Schonberg (French Radio recording) †
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure †
7.00 Petals of Blood The novel by Ngugi Wa Thiong'o dramatised by Mary Benson, including
7.55 Interval: music on record.
9.00 Music of Eight Decades Concert in a deferred relay from the Royal Festival Hall, London. Part 1: Lutoslawsku, Schoenberg †
9.50 Words: Talk by Janet Adam Smith (3).
9.55 Music of Eight Decades Part 2: Stravinsky †
11.00 News.
11.05 Schubert on record.†

VHF ONLY — OPEN UNIVERSITY: 5.55 am The Aeneid: Myth and Reality 6.15 Imagery 6.35-6.55 Seeing is not Observing 11.20 pm Rutherford and the Atom 11.40 Technology — Policy and Participation 12.00 Fiction Trap 12.20 am Buddhis in Thailand 12.40-1.00 Farm Specialisation.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Harry Carpenter.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Country Club.† 9.00 Alan Dell.† 10.00 The News Huddlines. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.00 Peter Clayton† from midnight. 1.00 Encore.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Three Men in a Boat (4). 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 The Record Producers (last in serios) Chris Thomas. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.0 midnight Close. VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 a.m. With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz 463m) at the following times GMT:- 6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Terry Wogan's Album Time. 7.00 World News. 7.09 News About Britain. 7.15 From the Weeklies. 7.30 Classical Record Review. 7.45 Network U.K. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The Moon and Sixpence. 8.30 These Musical Islands. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Science in Action. 10.15 New Ideas. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 About Britain. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Anything Goes. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Commentary. 1.15 Network U.K. 1.30 Gloria Hunniford. 2.00 Saturday Special. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Saturday Special. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Saturday Special. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Commentary. 8.15 Good Books. 8.30 These Musical Islands. 9.00 They Showed Us the Past. 9.15 The Brotherhood of Brass. 9.30 People and Politics. 10.00 World News. 10.09 From our Own Correspondent. 10.30 New Ideas. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Letterbox. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Play of the Week. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Good Books. 2.30 Sports Review. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 From our Own Correspondent. 3.30 These Musical Islands. 4.45 Financial Review. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 Letterbox. 5.45 Letter from America.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

BBC CYMRU/WALES 12.57-1.00 pm News of Wales. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 7.00-7.25 Heddiw. 12.00-12.25 Micros in the Classroom. 12.25 News of Wales. SCOTLAND 12.55-1.00pm Scottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 8.00-8.30 Sorry! 8.30-9.00 Current Account. 11.20-12.45am Regional Vote 82. (Voting for the nine Regional Councils and Three Island Authorities in Scotland). 12.45 Scottish News. NORTHERN IRELAND 11.30-11.50am For Schools. 12.57-1.00pm Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 8.00-8.30 Space Oddity (2). 12.00midnight Northern Ireland News. ENGLAND 6.00-6.25pm Regional Magazines. 12.05am Close.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.45 Little House on the Prairie. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.15 Incredible Hulk. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.50 Mannix. 11.45 In Concert: Blues Band. 12.15am Superstar Profile: Roger Moore. 12.40 Closedown.

TVS

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30pm News. 2.00-2.45 Not for women only. 5.15 Watch this Space ... 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 In the Mouth of the Dragon. 11.15 Strumpet City. 12.15am Company followed by Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.25am Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 1.20pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 4.20 Lone Ranger. 4.50-5.45 Voyage to the bottom of the Sea. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.47 Job Slot Extra. 10.53 Best of Three: Indoor Bowls. 11.25 Come In. 11.55 Bizarre. 12.25am In the Picture. 12.30 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Jangles. 4.50 Sport Billy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Benson. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Scotsport Quiz. 11.15 Maybe Tomorrow. 11.45 Late Call. 11.50 Regions Decide. 12.45am. Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30 Police News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Private Benjamin. 10.45 Cover to Cover. 11.15 Bizarre. 11.45 Love American Style. 12.15am News. 12.30 Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.20 Palmerstown. 5.15 Sound of ... 5.30-6.25 Good Evening Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Hill Street Blues. 1.30 News at Bedtime, Closedown.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Young Doctors. 1.20-1.30 News. 4.20 Sport Billy. 4.45 Jason of Star Command. 5.15-5.45 Arthur C. Clarke s Mysterious World. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Venture 11.15 News. 11.20 Local Elections 82 12.20am Closedown.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.45 Making of a Crew: Lifeboatmen. 4.15 Here's Boomer.. 4.45 Flying Kiwi. 5.05 Jobfine. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Flowers Dartsathlon 1982. 11.15 Lou Grant. 12.15am What the Papers Say. 12.30 Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except. 9.35am-9.50 Wales and the Sea. 11.22-11.37 Yn Eu Cynefin. 12.00-12.10pm Mistar Clai. 4.15 Murphy's Mob. 4.45-5.15 Sêr. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.35 Report Wales. 10.30-11.00 Sports Arena.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00 Crown Court. 2.30-2.45 Yesterday. 4.20 Here's Boomer. 4.50-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Clubland. 11.20 Granada Reports Local Election Report. 12-50am Closedown

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Sport Billy. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Hill Street Blues. 11.45 Calendar Election Special. 12.45am Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45 Little House on the Prairie. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Scene South West Special. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.50 Mannix. 11.45 In Concert: Blues Band. 12.15 am Superstar Profile: Roger Moore. 12.40 Postscript. 12.46 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.45 Not for Women Only 4.20 Fangface. 4.45 Adventures of Black Beauty. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Survival. 10.45 Snooker 82. 11.30 Election '82. 12.15 am Jazz. 12.45 Letters from Rome.

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Palmerstown USA. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.45 Snooker 11.45 Bizarre. 12.00 News. 12.03 am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Court of Appeal — Law Report May 6 1982

Retirement no 'just cause' for benefit

Crewe and Another v Anderson (National Insurance Officer)

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Donaldson and Lord Justice Slade

[Judgment delivered May 5]

For an employee to prove that he had "just cause" within section 20(1)(a) of the Social Security Act 1975 for leaving his employment so as not to be disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit under the section it was necessary for the employee to show that he was right and reasonable in the context of the risk of unemployment to leave his job, thus throwing on to the National Insurance Fund the burden of paying unemployment benefit; it was not sufficient for him to prove that he had acted in his own interests.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal under section 14(1) of the Social Security Act 1980 by Ernest Graham Crewe and the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association from a decision of a Social Security Commissioner, Mr Roderic Bowen, QC, upholding the determination of a local tribunal confirming the decision of Mr R. Anderson, a National Insurance Officer, that Mr Crewe was not entitled to unemployment benefit from September 18 to October 27, 1979, following his voluntary retirement as from September 1.

Section 20(1) of the 1975 Act provides: "A person shall be disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit for [a] period not exceeding 6 weeks ... if — (a) he has lost his employment as an employed earner through his misconduct, or has voluntarily left such employment without just cause; ...."

Mr Rupert Jackson for Mr Crewe; Mr Simon D Brown for the National Insurance Officer.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Crewe had been a school teacher. He was aged 61 and had taught for 39 years. Then the education authority had wanted the older teachers to retire voluntarily. They had offered considerable inducements.

Those had proved sufficiently attractive to induce Mr Crewe to apply for early retirement. His retirement had taken effect from September 1, 1979. Thereupon he had applied for unemployment benefit. The insurance officer had said that he was disqualified from obtaining it for the first six weeks.

Mr Crewe had appealed to the local tribunal. They had refused to allow him the six weeks' benefit. He had applied to the Social Security Commissioner. He had refused it too, but had given leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

The difference arose on a provision about unemployment benefit which went back 70 years. It was now contained in section 20(1)(a) of the Social Security Act 1975. The question was whether Mr Crewe left his employment "without just cause".

At first sight it looked as if he had just cause for leaving his employment. His employers had wanted him to go not for his own sake, but for their sake.

That simple approach was contrary to a long line of decisions by the commissioners. They were of much persuasive force.

As his Lordship had said in *R v National Insurance Commissioner, Ex parte Stratton* ([1979] QB 361, 369): "... if a decision of the commissioners has remained undisturbed for a long time, not amended by regulation, nor challenged by certiorari, and has been acted upon by all concerned, it should normally be regarded as binding. The High Court should not interfere with it save in exceptional circumstances ...".

Those decisions were best understood by remembering that most of them were given at a time when a man had no proprietary right in his job. There had been no provision for redundancy payment and no compensation for unfair dismissal.

Even though a man had been an excellent workman he could have been dismissed at a week's notice and put on the street with no payment from anyone. Such a man ought to be entitled to unemployment benefit as soon as he lost his job.

But if he voluntarily retired from his work with no other job to go to his loss of income was his own choice. He had no just cause for retiring. He would not be entitled to unemployment benefit.

Suppose his retirement had been due to illness or old age, or having to look after a sick wife. He would have lost his income for a just cause.

If he voluntarily retired because he had been left a legacy or was entitled to a retirement pension, there was no just cause for giving him unemployment benefit straightaway. He should be disqualified for six weeks anyway.

That line of approach explained all the previous decisions. They warranted the following propositions.

When a man left his employment he was disqualified from receiving unemployment benefit for six weeks unless he proved that he had just cause for leaving his employment. It was not sufficient for him to prove that he had been quite reasonable in leaving his employment.

Reasonableness might be "good cause", but it was not necessarily "just cause". "Without just cause" meant without just cause for throwing on to the National Insurance Fund the payment of unemployment benefit.

If he voluntarily retired on pension he was getting a substantial financial benefit for himself, and it was not fair or just to the fund that he should also get unemployment benefit for six weeks.

Even though the employer wanted him to retire, and offered him inducements to do so for the employer's benefit, he was still getting a substantial financial benefit for himself and was disqualified for obtaining unemployment benefit. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON said that the meaning of "without just cause" had been debated since at least 1930, but the most authoritative exposition, and that which was accepted by insurance officers, local appeal tribunals and social security commissioners was contained in a decision of three commissioners under the chairmanship of Sir Robert Micklethwaite, QC, in 1964 (R(U) 20/64).

The essence of the decision was expressed in succinct form in paragraph 13, where the commissioners said: "... the claimant ought to take such steps as are reasonably open to him to avoid voluntarily becoming unemployed and dependent on the National Insurance Fund."

It had been submitted that the fundamental justification for a premature retirement scheme of the present type was that it was necessary in the interests of the community as a whole, and that in accepting premature retirement Mr Crewe had just cause.

The commissioner had rejected that argument on the basis that it was not for him to consider whether the scheme was in the public interest, and that the essential facts were that Mr Crewe had wanted to retire, that he was entitled to retire, that he had no intention of seeking alternative employment following his retirement, and that he had taken no steps to do so.

In such circumstances, in the context of an unemployment insurance scheme, he had had no just cause for leaving his secure employment.

It was crucial in reaching a decision to remember that it was an insurance scheme, however it might be funded, against unemployment. It was of the essence of insurance that the assured should not deliberately create or increase the risk.

Prima facie an employee had not *done* so if he lost his employment involuntarily. The converse was true when the employee voluntarily left his employment.

The risk that he would be unemployed was of his own creation. That presumption was rebuttable. There might be circumstances which left him with no reasonable alternative to leaving his employment.

Again, although the risk of unemployment might arise from his voluntary act, he might have taken steps to minimise that risk, by obtaining a promise of immediate fresh employment or by taking steps to lead to such employment, as to make it right and reasonable to leave.

"Just cause" meant no more than right or right and reasonable in the context of the risk of unemployment. Any change of employment was likely to involve some risk of temporary unemployment and the question was whether the conduct of the claimant had been such as to create an unreasonable risk of such unemployment. If it had, the claimant had acted without just cause.

His Lordship was prepared to assume that Mr Crewe's acceptance was in the interests of the rest of the community. That was not the issue.

The compromise which was involved or the balance which had to be struck was between Mr Crewe's personal wishes and interests and the interests of his unemployment underwriters. In so far as the interests of the rest of the community were involved it was only in its capacity as underwriters

On the facts Mr Crewe had created a very high risk of unemployment amounting virtually to a certainty, and accordingly left his employment without just cause. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE, agreeing with both judgments, said that the primary purpose of the unemployment insurance scheme was to insure against unemployment ... involuntarily incurred. It was implicit in the scheme that, in broad terms, each insured person owed a responsibility to all other persons who underwrote the National Insurance Fund not to incur unemployment by his own voluntary act.

One statutory exception to that general responsibility arose where the insured person had "just cause" for voluntarily leaving his employment. Thus, even in the absence of authority, his Lordship would have concluded that the justice which the legislature had in mind was justice as between the employee and the general body of persons underwriting the fund.

More solid support for that conclusion was to be found in the line of decisions of commissioners referred to by the Master of the Rolls.

The commissioner had reached a conclusion to which he was perfectly entitled to come on the facts found by him.

Solicitors: Reynolds Porter Chamberlain; Solicitor, Department of Health and Social Security.

Chancery Division

Liquidator loses debenture action costs

In re Christonette International Ltd

Before Mr Justice Vinelott

[Judgment delivered April 7]

Where a receiver was appointed by a debenture holder which created a floating charge over a company's assets, the appointment being made after the presentation of a creditor's petition to wind up the company but before the making of a compusory winding up order, the liquidator was not entitled to recover his taxed costs, amounting to £1,491, incurred in unsuccessful litigation to set aside the debenture in priority to repayment of the principal sum secured by the debenture. His Lordship so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division on a summons by Mr Owen Neil Martin, the liquidator of Christonette International Ltd, against the receiver and manager.

Mr David Oliver for the liquidator; Mr Hubert Picarda for the receiver.

Mr JUSTICE VINELOTT said that on November 15, 1977, the company issued a debenture for £20,000, and charged its undertaking, property and assets as security. On February 6, 1978 it issued a second debenture for £15,000 to the same debenture holder, both debentures being duly registered under section 95 of the Companies Act 1948.

On October 30, 1978, the debenture holder called for repayment of both debentures. A creditor's petition for compulsory winding up was presented on December 13, 1978. On January 19, 1979, the debenture holder appointed a receiver and manager, and on January 22, 1979, a compulsory winding up order was made.

A liquidator was appointed on March 16, 1979. Shortly afterwards the liquidator instructed solicitors to institute proceedings to set aside the debentures and to apply for an injunction to restrain the receiver from making any payment to the debenture holder. An action was duly commenced on April 26, 1979, but on May 18, 1979 the action was dismissed with no order as to costs.

The liquidator had retained solicitors and commenced the action without authority from the court, but the retainer and the institution of proceedings were retrospectively sanctioned by order on April 16, 1980. The costs had since been taxed, and by the present summons the liquidator sought to recover those costs from the receiver.

Following his appointment, the receiver realized substantially the whole of the capital assets by sale to a purchaser on April 6, 1979. At that time there was a dispute between the receiver and a third party as to the ownership of certain chattels in the sale.

The receiver had commenced proceedings to establish his title, and under the sale agreement of April 6, the receiver agreed to prosecute that action in accordance with the directions and at the expense of the purchaser. That action was still pending.

If the receiver should fail to establish his title, or if the purchaser were previously to be advised by leading counsel that the receiver did not have title, then £35,000 of the purchase price was to be repaid to the purchaser.

The receiver had discharged those liabilities of the company which were given preference by section 319 of the Companies Act 1948, and which under section 94 (1) were payable out of assets coming into his hands in priority to the principal and interest secured by the debentures. He had also paid or retained his own expenses and remuneration, and had, in addition, paid the petitioning creditor's taxed costs, and lastly the principal sum secured by the first debenture.

Such payments had almost exhausted the moneys in the receiver's hands; though if the £35,000 and its accrued interest fell to be repaid to the receiver, there would probably be sufficient moneys to pay the principal sum secured by the second debenture with interest on both debentures, and leave a surplus for which he would have to account to the liquidator, which would probably suffice to meet the liquidator's costs in the litigation mentioned above.

If the £35,000 fell to be refunded to the purchaser then there would be no surplus for the liquidator.

The question was whether in those circumstances the receiver should have paid the principal sum secured by the first debenture before paying the liquidator his taxed costs.

The case for the liquidator was based on *In re Barleycorn Enterprises Ltd* ([1970] Ch 465) where the question was whether fees charged by chartered accountants for preparing a statement of affairs, which fees had been approved by the official receiver and which were clearly expenses of the winding up took priority over the claims of preferential creditors.

Section 319 (5) did not specifically refer to the costs and expenses of winding up though such costs were given priority over preferential debts to the extent of the "assets" of the company by section 319 (6). The order in which the costs and expenses of a winding up are to be paid out of assets is in turn governed by rule 195 of the Companies (Winding-up) Rules (SI 1949 No 330) where the costs of preparing a statement of affairs were given a high priority.

It had been held in a number of cases before the passing of the Preferential Payments in Bankruptcy Act 1888 (the precurser of sections 94 and 319 of the 1948 Act) that assets comprised in a floating charge ceased to be assets of the company as soon as the floating charge crystallized, and became a fixed charge which of course it necessarily did on the making of a winding up order, if still floating immediately before the order was made.

But to construe the words "the assets" in section 319 (5) (a) and 319 (6) as embracing only free assets which at the date of the winding up order were not subject to a floating charge produced an obvious absurdity.

On that construction the effect of section 319 (6) was that the costs and expenses of the winding up were given priority over "the foregoing debts" — that is to say debts which were made preferential by section 319 (1) — to the extent that the company had free assets; but to the extent that the assets "available for payment of general creditors" were insufficient (that is to the extent that assets not comprised in a floating charge or not received to meet the debts thereby secured were insufficient to meet preferential debts) the preferential debts but not the costs and expenses of the winding up were given priority over the claims of the debenture holder.

In *Barleycorn*, the Court of Appeal avoided that absurdity by holding that in the Preferential Payments in Bankruptcy Acts of 1888 and 1897, and in the sections of the Companies Acts which successively reenacted them, and in rule 195, the word "assets" was used in a different sense so as to include assets comprised in a floating charge. In that case of course the floating charge was still floating immediately before the winding up order was made and the order of application of assets was governed by section 319. In the present case the floating charge had crystallized and become a fixed charge when the receiver was appointed and took possession of the company's assets, with a mind to realizing them for the benefit of the debenture holder.

Under section 94, the company not being "in course of being wound up", it became the duty of the receiver to pay in priority to the principal and interest due to the debenture holder "debts which in every winding up are under the provisions of Part V of this Act relating to preferential payments to be paid in priority to all other debts".

The scheme of section 94 was in broad outline to give preference to debts which would have been preferential under section 319 if an order had been made under a resolution for winding up at the time of the appointment of a receiver or of possession being taken on behalf of the debenture holders. As mentioned above the receiver in the present case had in fact paid all debts to which *preference* was given

It was argued that section 319 supplemented section 94 and applied to any assets which were subject to a floating charge at the date of presentation of the petition so far as not absorbed in making payments given preference over the claims of the debenture holder by section 94. His Lordship found that an impossible contention.

The purpose of section 94 was to give priority to debts and other liabilities which would have been preferential in a winding up (by reference to the period ending with the appointment of a receiver or a taking of possession) notwithstanding that by such appointment or taking of possession the assets over which the appointment was made or of which possession was taken ceased to be assets of the company capable of being dealt with for the purposes of its business. Nothing in the *Barleycorn* decision was inconsistent with that construction.

To the extent that assets comprised in a floating charge which had not crystallized at the making of a winding up order those assets were to be treated as "assets" for the purposes of section 319 (5) (a) and (6) and rule 195.

But if the floating charge had crystallized the proceeds of realization of the assets comprised therein to the extent required to meet preferential debts and the claims of debenture holders such assets were not assets of the company in a subsequent winding up, any more than if they had initially been subject to a fixed charge.

That construction of section 94 was supported by *In re Griffin Hotel Co Ltd* ([1941] Ch 129), a case not cited in the *Barleycorn* case, and which on his Lordship's view of that decision, was not relevant to it.

In the *Griffin Hotel* case Mr Justice Bennett rejected the argument that the words "any floating charge" in section 264 (4) (b) of the Companies Act 1929 included all floating charges originally created, as such whether or not they had subsequently crystallized. The principle laid down in that case must apply *a fortiori* to costs and expenses of the winding up.

His Lordship rejected Mr Oliver's alternative submission that as the winding up order related back to the presentation of the petition the company was not one which was not "in the course of being wound up".

Section 94 dealt with the situation where, at the time when the receiver was appointed or when possession was taken of the assets, no liquidator had yet been appointed.

Solicitors: D. J. Freeman & Co; Sampson & Co.

Death penalty vote on Tuesday

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The House of Commons is to be given the opportunity to vote for the return of capital punishment next Tuesday.

It was revealed last night that the Criminal Justice Bill is to be given three days for its report stage, providing the Falklands emergency does not force a rearrangement of parliamentary business, and that capital punishment would be allocated the first full day of debate.

This decision will be announced in the Commons this afternoon.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, has already expressed the hope that Mr George Thomas the Speaker *will group the four new* clauses containing capital punishment options, with four separate divisions to take place at the end of debate, at 10 pm on Tuesday.

Three original new clauses tabled by Mr Vivian Bendall, *Ilford, North, and Mr Ed*ward Taylor, Southend, East, propose the death penalty for terrorism involving loss of life, for murder of police and prison officers, and for murder committed in the course of robbery and burglary, involving the use of firearms.

Since then a group of senior Conservative backbenchers have tabled a more general new clause, stating: "A person convicted of murder shall be liable to capital punishment."

The last death penalty vote in July, 1979, opposed the punishment by 362 votes to 243.



The Street turns out for the Queen

The new old houses in Coronation Street were decked out in flowers and bunting yesterday for a visit by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. Behind the colourful exterior, however, was a homely concern for Prince Andrew, serving as a helicopter pilot with the Falklands task force.

On all sides the Queen was asked about her son and she told Mr Hugh Lee, the Lord Mayor of Manchester: "It is a very anxious time for us all."

During their visit to the newly-built television set for the Street, the Queen and Prince Philip met the cast's regulars as, above, are seen chatting to Len and Rita Fairclough (Peter Adamson and Barbara Knox) while Elsie Tanner (Pat Phoenix) looks on.

The new location for the *long running TV series in a* former railway yard near the Granada TV centre in Manchester. It was completed only a week ago to replace the former outside set a short distance away which was not regarded as authentic enough. The Queen is *reported to be a regular* watcher of the series.

Bishops condemn Polish police

From Roger Boyes Warsaw, May 5

The Polish Roman Catholic Church today strongly criticized the Government's handling of Monday's violent demonstrations in the country and made it clear that it expected substantial concessions before a lasting national agreement could be found.

"The state will be able to fulfil its task only when it enjoys public support — only then will the common building of a jointly drafted programme be able to get under way," the country's bishops declared in a statement issued today.

However, the church leadership showed that it was at least ready to maintain a semblance of a dialogue with the martial law authorities and pressed on with a scheduled meeting of the joint consultative government-church council. Church sources said that the meeting was unusually short and to the point. This was reflected in the conciseness of the communique which said little more than that both sides had "expressed their concern about the social situation in Poland".

Church sources say that senior clergy have been complaining bitterly about police behaviour on Monday, both towards their parishioners and towards church buildings. Zomo riot police threw tear gas canisters into at least two churches to force out demonstrators claiming sanctuary.

The bishops praised last week's concession made by the Government in terms of easing martial law.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Decency and restraint overcomes the House

A decent restraint was observed by most of the commons when, as he promised, when breaking the news to the House late the night before, Mr Nott rose to make a fuller statement about the last hours of HMS Sheffield.

Decent restraint has not come easily to some Members these last four weeks. Some have had difficulty being decent. Others have had difficulty being restrained. Mr Ian Mikardo, the perennial Labour left-winger, for example, is one of those who have not been up to either. During Mr Nott's appearance the night before, some of us had sat in the gallery repelled as he had triumphantly asked the Secretary of State for Defence whether, after the loss of the Sheffield, the Prime Minister "is" still inviting us to rejoice, rejoice." He was quoting from Mrs Thatcher's reaction to the *bloodless* retaking of South Georgia. Stuff so vile and crude boded ill for yesterday's exchanges as Chamber and galleries began to fill. Mercifully we heard no more of it. No doubt it will be heard again *in due course, but yester*day's darkest enemies.

Mr Nott had little to add. He named the dead Harrier pilot. He put the number of missing at 30. Next of kin were being informed. He said that the thoughts of the whole House were with *them. Mrs Thatcher, seated* next to his, was as pale as she had been when she sat in the same place, alongside the same Minister, at 11.0 clock previous evening. Sometimes her gaze was lowered. Sometimes it scanned the Labour benches, *looking with horror for* some lurking Mikardo.

Twenty-four hours before this appearance in the Chamber yesterday, 24 hours almost to the minute, Mrs Thatcher had made a fateful remark to Mr Foot. He had contrived to suggest that the sinking of the General Belgrano had put British lives at risk, as if that risk were not already inherent in the very sending of the task force which he had supported. She had told him that she had to "live hourly" with the worry that the Argentines "might get through". That was the way British lives would be put at risk. Her wording gave a suggestion that she believed it a danger, not something really likely. But now that hour had come, and here she was sitting on the front bench again, looking as if she was in a dream and perhaps wishing that she was.

Mr Alan Clark, a tory who represents the constituency of Plymouth, Sutton, asked Mr Nott to assure that, wherever possible next of kin would hear of these events before the news was released. And would it not be preferable for an officer to visit the relatives, to ensure that there was no immediate hardship, to explain entitlements? It was curiously right so mundane a question — with its bleak reference to "entitlements" and to the proprieties to be observed on these occasions — should have been the first from the back benches, heard while the House was still tense and silent. It fittingly depicted a world of misery inescapable from the military venture to which the House rightly gave its near-united support when the task force set sail.

Mr Pym, the Foreign Secretary, made a statement about the diplomatic aftermath. He was rather more interested in the *United Nations than he had been* a few days ago. By the time Mr Pym sat down, the impression was that the men of peace and negotiation were soon going to have their advice put to the test.

Mr Healey, the shadow *Foreign Secretary, rose. He* has been a party politician nearly all his adult life. He knows no other trade. He has continued to practise it over this last month. But he is also a man who can tell when an occasion is inappropriate to his professional skills.

Associating the Labour Opposition with the tributes paid to the lost British servicemen, he said that they "gave their lives in the defence of the principle which is regarded as of great importance by all members of the House."

There was a cheer at this, but rather more from the Tories than from Mr Healey's own party. Admittedly, the shadow Foreign Secretary wandered off into a question to Mr Nott about the relative positions of the Belgrano and the British task force, a question designed to prove some point which Mr Healey had tried to score off Mr Nott the previous day. Mr Healey, being mortal, was not perfect, even on this day.

How HMS Sheffield was hit

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Continued from page 1

aircraft, although this was not certain. That was possibly the reason why the attack was with Exocet missiles. The Sheffield was armed with Sea Dart missiles of the latest kind. These were an air defence weapon and were not very successful against incoming missiles of a particular kind. It was not known why the Sea Dart system did not successfully engage the aircraft but it was possible that it came in very low, under radar cover.

Mr Nott also named the pilot of the Sea Harrier lost in the attack on the airfield at Port Stanley as Lieutenant Nicholas Taylor.

Mr Denis Healey, Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, was cheered by MPs on both sides of the Com*mons when, in paying tribute* to the courage of the Harrier pilot and the crew of the Sheffield, he said they had given their lives in the defence of a principle that was regarded as of great importance by all members of the House.

☐ A Ministry of Defence spokesman said last night that they were aware of but would not confirm reports that the main Argentine fleet was outside the 200 mile Military Exclusion Zone and heading back towards Argentina, but that two Argentina submarines remained inside the zone.

There was no further news of either the casualties or the survivors of HMS Sheffield and little enough of the ship itself except that she was still afloat.

Britain favours Peruvian initiative

Continued from page 1

The main attraction for the British of the Peruvian proposals is that they contain the elements of a three-point package which would be acceptable to Britain. These are: the mechanics for a withdrawal of Argentinean forces from the islands; the establishment of an interim administration on the islands with international participation; and negotiations for a long-term solution without prejudging the sovereignty question.

Another attraction of Peruvian involvement in finding a diplomatic solution is the existing warm relations which exist between Lima and Buenos Aires. This could mean that a solution put forward by Peru would be more palatable to the Argentines than one proposed by the Americans who are now openly siding with the British.

The British regard Mr Haig's role in any settlement effort as being absolutely essential. "We favour the Peruvian initiative because they are working very closely with Mr Haig," one British diplomat said today.

But Argentine sources say Mr Haig is regarded in Buenos Aires as totally discredited since the United States sided with Britain. However, they say Argentina is beginning to have second thoughts about President Belaunde Terry's peace initiative.

Fans mourn

Portsmouth and Exeter City fans stood in silence for one minute before their Third Division football match, in tribute to the sailors who died aboard HMS Sheffield, which was based in Portsmouth.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh attends Game Conservation International Convention, Churchill Hotel, Portman Square, W1, 9.15; as Admiral of the Royal Naval Sailing Association, presents prizes for Whitbread Round the World Race, Porter Tun Room, Whitbread Brewery, Chiswell Street, EC1, 5.30; later as Senior Fellow, Fellowship of Engineering, attends New Fellows Dinner, Apothecaries' Hall, Black Friars Lane, EC4, 7.45.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits exhibitions marking centenary of Royal Cambrian Academy of Art at Conway and Llandudno, N Wales, 12.30.

Princess Margaret visits Becton Dickinson factory, Plymouth, 10.45.

The Duke of Gloucester opens Chester-le-Street Civic Centre, co Durham, 11.40; opens Royal Mail House, Darlington, 3.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends London Suzuki Group School Appeal Concert, St James's Palace, 7.25.

Exhibitions in progress

Watercolours, oil paintings and sculpture by the artists of the Hatfield Road Group, City Museum and Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10.30 to 8 (until May 15).

Leaves Never Grow on Trees, four prints from Max Ernst's *Histoire Naturelle*, Billingham Art Gallery, Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (until May 22).

Late Sickert paintings, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until May 22).

Stamps, covers and photographs depicting sail training ships of the world, Maritime Museum, The Quay, Exeter; daily 10 to 5 (until December 31).

Concert, Judie Tzuke, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Objects Human Scale: contemporary Australian jewelry and ceramics, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until May 15).

Replica Crown Jewels, Chapter House, Guildford Cathedral; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 1 to 5; late opening Wed 6.45 to 8.30 (until June 29).

Paintings by Helen Wilks and glass pieces by Sam Herman, Bridge Street Gallery, 7a Bridge Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (until May 29).

Batik by Rosa Seldon, Falmouth Art Gallery, The Moor, Falmouth; Mon to Fri 10 to 1 and 2 to 4.30 *(until May 21)*.

Images of Reality: photographs tracing the background of the Blackfoot Nation, Captain Cook Birthplace Museum, Stewart Park, Marton, Middlesbrough; 10 to 6 daily (until June 11).

Talks, lectures

Why does the horn point backwards? — *lecture/recital* in aid of Bournemouth Orchestra Appeal Fund, by Christopher Martin and James Crump, Arts Centre, Weymouth, 7.30.

The Revolutionary Requirement of Christianity Today, by Lord Soper, Great Hall, Magee University College, Londonderry, N Ireland, 8.

Music

Concert by London Mozart Players, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Recital by Deborah Dales (soprano) and Diane Stewart (cello), United Reform Church, Hallgate, Doncaster, 7.30.

Sporting fixtures

Cricket: Full county championship programme (11.0), page 23.

Racing: Flat meetings at Salisbury (1.30) and Chester (2.15); NH at Huntingdon (2.20).

Rugby League: Second division, Hunslet v Oldham (7.0).

Golf: WPGA tournament, Woburn; Northern Open, at Cruden Bay, Aberdeenshire.

Snooker: World championships, Sheffield (11.0, 3.15 and 7.30).

Speedway: England v United States, Ipswich (7.30).

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on economic and employment prospects in Wales.

Lords (3): Epsom and Walton Downs Regulations Bill, second reading Administration of Justice Bill, report, second day. Debate on state aid to agriculture.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,824

ACROSS

1 Holder of catch in Test, perhaps, at close of play (7-3).
9 Time one's to meet the beautiful women (6).
10 Established church in French region (8).
11 Laurel held by Bones completing this in the race (8).
12 She sounds rather like a complaining sort (4).
13 A sight better with these — e g without the old girls (10).
15 Driving too low, but scoring, perhaps (7).
17 "——, of fishy form and mind" (Brooke) (7).
20 Etre un haricot vert (6, 4).
21 Ended some courtship — a strange one? (4).
23 Hell of a rough chap, it appears to us (8).
25 What an idiot to be caught in eight furlongs (8).
26 Improves when midday comes? (6).
27 Showing tense batting by grim opener (10).

DOWN

2 Spanish course in banking — dry (6).
3 Article in advent rewritten by the old poet (8).
4 Of all the holes, of course, bar this (10).
5 Eyed pointed rocks (7).
6 Huts rebuilt in this way (4).
7 Richardson's Sir Charles *without one descendant* (8).
8 Fools writing up new net valuation (10).
12 Guy may be one without substantial means (3, 2, 5).
14 Very sad to see the foreign people on board (10).
16 He went into the politicians' *speculations* (8).
18 Formerly allowable round pithead, that's clear (8).
19 Coast port for instance (7).
22 Red leader gets bad mark accepting money (6).
24 ARP's order in file (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,823

New books — fiction

This is a personal selection of important, interesting, noteworthy, or enigmatic novels just published, arranged alphabetically rather than in any order of merit or preference:

A Chain of Voices, by Andre Brink (Faber, £7.95)
A Standard of Behaviour, by William Trevor (Abacus, £1.95)
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, by Anita Loos (Picador, £2.95)
Headbirths, or The Germans are Dying Out, by Gunter Grass (Secker & Warburg, £6.95)
Ladysmead, by Jane Gillespie (Hale, £7.25)
Midsummer Night Madness, by Sean O'Faolain (Penguin, £2.95)
Of Mortal Love, by William Gerhardie (Penguin, £2.95)
Returning, by Edna O'Brien (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.50)
Thanksgiving, by Terry Coleman (Hutchinson, £7.95)
The House of Cards, by Leon Garfield (*The Bodley Head*, £7.50)
The Infernal Desire Machines of Doctor Hoffman, by Angela Carter (King Penguin, £2.25)
The Voyage of the Destiny, by Robert Nye (Hamish Hamilton, £8.50)

PH

National Stamp Day

This week is National Stamp *Collecting Week, and today* is National Stamp Day, marking the anniversary of the first issue in 1840 of the Penny Black, the world's first adhesive postage stamp.

The Covent Garden Stamp Festival, in Covent Garden Market, runs until Saturday, and includes philatelic displays and a dealers fair.

An exhibition of stamps designed by Edmund Dulac opens today at the National Postal Museum, King Edward Street, EC1 (Mon to Thurs 10 to 4.30, Fri 10 to 4, until May 28).

Anniversaries

Births: **Maximilien Robespierre**, Arras, 1758; **Sigmund Freud**, Freiberg (Pribor, Czechoslovakia), 1856; **Rudolph Valentino**, Castellaneta, Italy, 1895. Deaths: **Alexander von Humboldt**, German scientist and explorer, Berlin, 1859; **Henry David Thoreau**, Concord, Mass, 1862; **Paul Gauguin**, Tahiti, 1903; **Edward VII**, London, 1910. **Lord Frederick Cavendish and Thomas H Burke** were murdered by Irish nationalists, in Phoenix Park, Dublin, 1882.

BBC booklet

The revised BBC facts and figures 1982 booklet, giving information about the television service to take account of the licence fee increase and explaining how the money is spent, can be obtained from Information Services – Television, Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12 7RJ (enclose s.a.e.).

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.76	1.68
Austria Sch	31.00	29.00
Belgium Fr	88.50	83.50
Canada $	2.26	2.17
Denmark Kr	14.75	14.00
Ireland Pt	1.25	1.20
France Fr	11.32	10.72
Germany Dm	4.36	4.11
Greece Dr	116.00	109.00
Hongkong $	10.75	10.15
Italy Lira	2375.00	2275.00
Japan Yen	448.00	422.00
Netherlands Gld	4.83	4.57
Norway Kr	11.22	10.62
Portugal Esc	131.50	124.50
South Africa Rd	2.39	2.19
Spain Pta	188.25	179.25
Sweden Kr	10.86	10.28
Switzerland Fr	3.66	3.44
USA $	1.85	1.78
Yugoslavia Dnr	98.00	92.00

London: The *FT* Index closed down 8.8 at 575.4.

The papers

Calling for an immediate ceasefire and suggesting a United Nations trusteeship in the Falklands, the **Daily Mirror** says: "Too many brave men have already died ... in the wake of death, peace should be given a real chance."

The government must pursue discussions leading to a ceasefire, but not at the price of a sell-out, says the **Morning Telegraph, Sheffield**, which would be a "shameful betrayal" of sailors who have already died.

Le Monde said yesterday that Mrs Thatcher, "in defence of principles gives way neither to a sense of proportion not to the *necessary balance between farce* and diplomacy".

The Frankfuter Rundschau feels "the aggressive form of British 'self defence' recalls the days of Empire", while the **Kölner Stadtanzeiger** calls on the Allies to oppose "this dangerously escalating British operation".

The Washington Post called on Britain and Argentina to stop the shooting and resume negotiations, saying casualties should not be allowed to inflame passions and obscure the possibility of further mediation.

Roads

London and South-east: Roadworks in Richmond town centre, congestion on A316, Chertsey Road. A40: Roadworks between Ealing and Denham. M3: Lane closures between junctions 3 (Bagshot) and 4 (Farnborough).

Wales and West: A358: Roadworks E of Taunton. A38: Long delays W of Wellington, Somerset. M4/M5: Roadworks and lane restrictions at Almondsbury interchange, near Severn Bridge.

Midlands: A625: Closed at Mam Tor, Derbyshire; diversion. M5: Lane closures between junctions 7 and 8 (Ross-on-Wye). M1: Only *hard shoulder* open southbound between junction 26 (Nottingham) and Trowell service area.

North: A59/A629: Roadworks at Skipton, N Yorkshire. A1/A6136: Lane closures on Catterick by-pass, N Yorkshire. A6072: Delays likely on Heighington by-pass, Co Durham.

Scotland: M8: Lane closures near junction 5. A77: Temporary signals N of Cairnryan. A1: Only one lane in use with temporary signals E of Haddington, E Lothian.

Information supplied by the AA.

Weather forecast

The cold showery air stream will persist.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, cent S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: *Becoming rather cloudy* with showers of longer outbreaks of rain but clearer and dry later; winds variable becoming mainly W. Light. Max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F), frost early.

W Midlands, cent N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Rather cloudy with some showers, sunny or clear periods developing, *becoming mostly dry; winds backing* slowly SW, moderate becoming light; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F), frost in places early.

SW, NW Engand, Wales, Lake District: Sunn or clear intervals, scattered showers; winds NW backing W, moderate; max temp 9 to 10C (48 to 50F), frost in sheltered parts early.

Isle of Man, SW, NW England, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Sunny of clear intervals, scattered showers; winds backing SW, mainly light; max temp 7 to 8C (45 to 46F), frost at first in places.

Aberdeen, cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Wintry showers, sunny or clearer intervals; winds NW to W, moderate; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F), frost in places early.

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mostly dry with sunny intervals but occasional rain in the N. Temperatures near normal with perhaps night frost in places.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind variable, becoming NW, light or moderate, sea smooth or slight. **English Channel (E).** Wind NW moderate or fresh, sea slight or moderate. **St Georges Channel Irish Sea:** Wind NW moderate, becoming light; sea slight.

Sun rises: 5 24 am — Sun sets: 8.31 pm
Moon sets: 5.18 am — Moon rises: 6 45 pm
Full moon: May 8

Lighting-up time

London 9.01 pm to 4 52 am
Bristol 9.11 pm to 5.02 am
Edinburgh 9 31 pm to 4.47 am
Manchester 9.17 pm to 4.53 am
Penzance 9.18 pm to 5.19 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud: f, fair; r, rain s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	5	41	Guernsey	r	6	43
Birmingham	c	10	50	Inverness	r	6	43
Blackpool	s	8	46	Jersey	r	6	43
Bristol	r	9	48	London	s	12	54
Cardiff	s	10	50	Manchester	s	10	50
Edinbugh	f	8	46	Newcastle	s	10	50
Glasgow	c	8	46	Ronaldsway	s	8	46

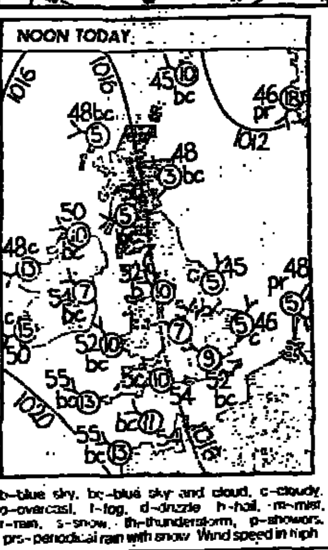
London

Temp. max 7 am to 7 pm, 12C (54F); min 7 pm to 7 am 4C, (39F). Humidity: 7 pm, 67 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 7 pm .11in. Sun: 24 hr to 7 pm, 4.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,009.8 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars = 29 53 in.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Bridlington, Gorleston, 14c (57f) Lowest day max: Cape Wrath, 5c (41f). Highest rainfall: Isles of Scilly, 0.7in. Highest sunshine: Morecombe, 12.8hrs.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b–blue sky, bc–blue sky and cloud, c–cloudy, o–overcast, f–fog, d–drizzle h–hail, m–mist, r–rain, s–snow, th–thunderstorm, p–showers, prs–periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1 39	6 9	2 06	7 2
Aberdeen	1 14	3 9	1 22	3 9
Avonmouth	7.08	12 5	7 32	12 7
Belfast	10 56	3.3	11 26	3 1
Cardiff	6 54	11 6	7 18	11 8
Devonport	5 45	5 2	6 10	5.3
Dover	11 07	6 2	11 17	6 4
Falmouth	5 15	5 0	5 40	5 1
Glasgow	1 02	4 4	1 00	4 6
Harwich			12 04	4 0
Holyhead	10 18	5 3	10 41	5 2
Hull	6 22	6 5	6 28	7 1
Ilfracombe	5 55	8 7	6 16	8 7
Leith	2 25	5.3	2 46	5 4
Liverpool	11 14	9 0	11 35	9 0
Lowestoft	9 39	2 3	9 37	2 3
Margate			12 22	4 6
Milford Haven	6 09	6 6	6 30	6 7
Newquay	5 01	6 7	5 21	6 1
Oban	5 47	3.7	6.12	3 7
Penzance	4 45	5 3	6 08	5.4
Portland	6.45	1.8	7.30	1 9
Portsmouth	11 43	4.4	11 46	4 6
Shoreham	11 14	5 8	11.39	6.1
Southampton	10 58	4 3	11 18	4 4
Swansea	6 13	9 0	6.40	9 1
Tees	3.40	5 0	3 51	5 2
Walton-on-Naze	11 49	4 1		

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarboro	12.3	—	13	56	Sunny	Teignmouth	2.3	27	8	48	Hail am
Bridlington	12.1	—	14	57	Sunny	Torquay	2 2	07	9	48	Shwrs
Cleethorpes	6.6	—	13	55	Sun ints	Penzance	1.8	.08	9	49	Shwrs
Cromer	10.4	—	11	52	Sunny	Jersey	5.7	.05	11	52	Rain
Gorleston	11.3	—	14	57	Sunny	Scilly Isles	5.0	.70	10	50	Showers pm
Lowestoft	8.9	.01	10	50	Sun pds	Ilfracombe	2.1	.01	10	50	Showers pm
Clacton	7 6	—	10	50	Sun pds	Tenby	3 3	.61	11	52	Showers am
Margate	9.2	.03	12	54	Shwr am	Anglesey	9 5	—	11	52	Sun pds
Folkestone	11.6	.02	11	52	Sunny	Colwyn Bay	10.3	—	9	48	Sun pds
Hastings	6.2	—	17	63	Sun ints	Southport	10.0	.02	9	48	Sun pds
Eastbourne	7.7	.01	10	50	Sun ints	Blackpool	9.3	.09	9	48	Sun pds
Worthing	7.0	.02	11	52	Rain am	Morecambe	12 6	—	10	50	Sunny
Littlehmptn	5.3	.01	11	52	Rain am	Douglas	8.8	—	9	48	Sun pds
Bognor R	5.5	.11	11	52	Shwrs	Aldergrove	—	.08	8	46	Rain
Hayling Is	1.2	.03	10	50	Shwrs	Eskdalemuir	3.8	.08	7	45	Hail pm
Southsea	•	.41	10	50	Shwrs	Prestwick	2.8	.08	7	45	Rain
Ryde	0.8	.35	10	50	Shwrs	Abbotsinch	2.1	.08	7	45	Hail pm
Sandown	2.6	.83	10	50	Rain	Tiree	1.7	.06	9	48	Showers
Shanklin	2.8	.39	10	50	Rain	Stornoway	3.0	.44	7	45	Showers am
Ventnor	2.4	.21	7	45	Rain	Lerwick	1.6	.52	7	45	Sleet am
Bournemth	3.2	.13	9	48	Hail pm	Wick	2.8	.05	8	46	Hail pm
Poole	3.3	.13	11	52	Shwrs	Kinloss	0.1	.45	7	45	Showers
Swanage	1.6	.21	9	48	Shwrs pm	Dyce	0.5	.08	8	46	Showers
Weymouth	4.6	.21	11	52	Shwrs pm	St Andrews	4.7	.28	11	52	Thunder pm

Abroad

MIDDAY; c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	27	81	Copenhgn	r	7	45	Majorca	s	21	70	Rome	f	20	68
Akrotiri	s	23	73	Corfu	s	21	70	Malaga	s	24	75	Salzburg	c	21	70
Alexandria	f	23	73	Dallas				Malta	f	19	66	Sao Paulo			
Algiers	f	25	77	Dublin	s	9	48	Melbourne	c	19	66	S Francisco			
Amsterdam	r	8	46	Dubrovnik	s	19	66	Mexico C				Santiago*	f	26	79
Athens	c	20	68	Faro	s	19	66	Miami				Seoul	s	22	72
Bahrain*	s	34	93	Florence	r	15	59	Milan	r	12	54	Singapore		—	
Barbados*	c	29	84	Frankfurt	r	10	50	Montreal				Stockholm	s	12	54
Barcelona	s	16	61	Funchal	f	18	64	Moscow	f	19	66	Strasbourg	c	10	50
Beirut	f	20	68	Geneva	r	6	43	Munich	f	19	66	Sydney	f	26	79
Belgrade	s	23	73	Gibraltar	s	21	70	Nairobi	r	20	68	Tangier	s	17	63
Berlin	s	19	66	Helsinki	s	12	54	Naples	s	20	68	Tehran			
Bermuda$	s	22	72	Hongkong	c	25	77	New Delhi	s	34	93	Tel Aviv	c	20	68
Biarritz	s	13	55	Innsbruck	s	19	66	New York				Tenerife	s	22	72
Boulogne	s	10	50	Istanbul	s	17	63	Nice	r	15	59	Tokyo	f	22	72
Bordeaux	f	15	59	Jo'burg	f	19	66	Oslo	f	9	48	Toronto			
B. Aires*	f	21	70	Jiddah	c	31	88	Ottawa				Tunis	s	25	77
Brussels	s	10	50	Karachi				Paris	c	11	52	Valencia	s	19	66
Budapest	s	23	73	Las Palmas	s	22	72	Peking	f	20	68	Vancouver			
Cairo	c	27	73	Lisbon	s	16	61	Prague	s	21	70	Venice	s	15	59
Cape Tn	s	21	70	Locarno	r	9	48	Reykjavik	s	0	32	Vienna	s	20	68
C'blanca	c	18	64	L Angeles				Rhodes	s	21	70	Warsaw	c	23	73
Chicago				Luxembg	c	6	43	Riyadh*	s	37	99	Washington			
Cologne	c	6	43	Madrid	s	16	61	Rio de Jan*	c	20	68	Zurich	c	8	43

*denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available.